

Tribe falls in season, CAA opener
Delaware running back burns Tribe en route to NCAA Football
Championship series record seven touchdowns.
See A Cut Above page 12.



From Tim Gunn to Post Secret
UCAB provides a variety of entertainment options for students. From
concerts to murder mystery dinners, there is something for everyone.
See UCAB page 8

The Flat Hat

The twice-weekly student newspaper of the College of William and Mary ♦ Est. 1911

VOL.97, NO.2

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31, 2007

FLATHATNEWS.COM

Nichol discusses finances, cross with The Flat Hat

The following is a transcript of yesterday's Flat Hat exclusive interview with Nichol

Interview by Austin Wright
Flat Hat News Editor

Flat Hat: In your first year as College president, you brought Sandra Day O'Connor to campus. In your second year, we got a visit from the Queen of England. How do you plan to top that this year?

Nichol: I don't know if you can top the Queen. Justice O'Connor, thankfully, she set a great pattern, and I think she's going to be here a lot. She was here a ton last year, if you remember. So she's going to continue to be a really active chancellor and then she'll be here in a couple weeks with the start of the Democracy Conference. ... I don't know, I mean, you know, to me if Bruce Springsteen or Mick Jagger would come that would — but I don't know how you top the Queen. I'm not looking to actually top the Queen.

FH: Congratulations on a successful end to the Campaign for William and Mary. Three years ago, when you were being considered for the job as College president, you said in a student forum that when the

campaign ends, we would need to begin a larger campaign. Do you still feel that way and what are your plans?

Nichol: There can be no downturn in the efforts of the College to raise the resources that it needs. We will go into what are considered quiet planning phases for the next campaign, but there will definitely be another campaign and it will be one that presses the ambitions and the success of the College of William and Mary. We won't announce it today.

FH: Any indication of when it will go public or how much money we will need to raise?

Nichol: It will be ambitious, but we're a long ways away from making those kind of announcements or even, finally, what those decisions will be. Those decisions will be made in consultation with the volunteers who have done so much to make this campaign a success. So those decisions are down the road. Sometimes universities at the end of fundraising campaigns decide to retrench a little bit in terms of their fundraising efforts — take a big breather — so their

generous supporters can have somewhat of a rest. We're not taking any break ... [and] we're not going to be downsizing our fundraising efforts. They will be targeted, I think, to some specific ventures that we'll be announcing, but the energy will remain very high and the commitment to raising private resources will stay up at the top of our pantheon of efforts.

FH: Are you happy with the Committee on Religion in a Public University's decision to put the Wren cross inside a glass case in the chapel and do you think it accomplishes your goal of making the chapel more welcoming to people of all faiths?

Nichol: I do. You know this was a long and very heated controversy. It's one in which you folks have pointed out, and I think I have admitted, that there are some things I should have handled differently. But I also think it involves very important issues. ... I was, to be honest, immensely impressed with the work of the religion committee. It was a very strong committee, as I think you know if you



ALEX HAGLUND — THE FLAT HAT

College President Gene Nichol sat down with The Flat Hat for his first interview of the year yesterday. Nichol discussed his decision to remove the Wren cross, the Gateway program, his plans for the future of the College and how he likes living on campus.

looked at it. It had very powerful opinions, pro and con. The folks were real serious both about these questions of religious diversity and religions expression and about their love for the College. I don't know if I thought they would be able to come up with a unanimous recommendation, but they certainly did. I was

heartened with it and glad to see it come to pass and bring it into play. I'm not saying it's exactly what I would have chosen, but it's what this committee — what this community — chose, and I think it's a strong step forward. I mean, for me, it reflects a welcoming chapel, and it indicates its history in a way that is power-

ful and accurate, and so I think it meets the goals that I was after, and I didn't just grudgingly accept it — I accepted it with enthusiasm. I think it's much more beneficial than the circumstance that we had before. I have very high regard for the folks both

See INTERVIEW page 5

GUSTER TO PERFORM AT HOMECOMING



COURTESY PHOTO — GUSTER.COM

Guster is making the College apart of its tour of colleges and Southern clubs. They will play in the Sunken Garden for the Homecoming concert Oct. 26. For more see HOMECOMING KING, page 8.

Department questions hiring policies

Philosophy faculty unhappy that untenured professors help hire

By ALEX GUILLÉN
Flat Hat Assoc. Reviews Editor

There is an ongoing feud between the philosophy department and the administration that resulted in the removal of the department chair and the placement of the department under receivership, in which a non-philosophy professor handles the administrative duties of the department chair.

The controversy began when philosophy professors Paul Davies and George Harris co-authored an editorial in the Daily Press in which they expressed their displeasure with College President Gene Nichol over his handling of last year's Wren cross controversy. They also outlined their disagree-

ment with the current department hiring system in which non-tenured, or junior, professors and tenured, or senior, faculty can vote on new hires. It was the second point that attracted the interest of an outside review board in their report on the alleged poor treatment of junior faculty. The report was released by Carl Strickwerda, the dean of arts and sciences, without first notifying the department and allowing them to respond. This angered the professors.

What is considered the norm in academia and is the current system in use at the College is that all professors in a department are allowed to vote on hiring decisions and only senior faculty vote on tenure decisions. Davies and Harris disagreed

with this policy, arguing that changing the voting system would protect the junior faculty and lead to higher academic standards. The hiring policy is determined not by individual departments but by College-wide rules — meaning the department could not have changed its policy even if it wanted to.

"If you have junior people voting, they have tenure in the back of their minds, and that would be a motivation to hire someone less impressive than yourself," Davies said to Inside Higher Ed, adding that it would also protect them from trying to please senior faculty who may later vote on their tenure.

"There has to be a check on

See PHILOSOPHY page 3

Students spend summers serving, learning and modeling

By ALINA TODOR and
RACHEL OHM
The Flat Hat

From modeling at Hollister to consulting in Iraq, here are the stories of five students who made the most of their summers.

Consulting in Iraq

While other students read about day-to-day events in Iraq, Scott Parks '09 witnessed them while working as an economic consultant for the Kurdistan Regional Government.

Kurdistan is vastly different from the Iraq with which most Americans are familiar. "The Northern provinces of Iraq that comprise Kurdistan enjoy relative peace and prosperity," Parks said. "[The Northern provinces are] much more conducive to economic growth and poverty reduction than the rest of Iraq."

For nearly two decades, the Kurds in Iraq have been working to spur foreign investment in order to rebuild the country and work toward a goal Parks describes as "the chance to become a fully functional liberal democracy."

Earlier this year, Parks met with a representative of the KRG, and the meeting led to Parks' job as an economic consultant. He was hired to help develop a plan to increase foreign investment in Kurdistan.

"I worked with several ministries to collect key social and economic data of interest to investors, develop a statistical authority for the KRG and draft an

Investment Climate Assessment," Parks said. He worked primarily with the KRG Ministers, but also with the Prime Minister, the Board of Investment, the United States Agency for International Development in Iraq and other international organizations.

His stay in Iraq included many cross-cultural experiences, such as Kurdish feasts. "Imagine the biggest table you have ever seen, then picture that entire table filled with Middle Eastern food," he said.

Parks got to visit the oilfields of TaqTaq, where reminders of Saddam Hussein's brutal regime are still visible.

"It sounds a bit cliché," he said, "but my trip to Iraqi Kurdistan really broadened my 'world-view.'"

Learning silently

Instead of taking her academic interests outside the classroom, Kira Allman '10 explored her fas-

cination with linguistics in a highly unusual setting: a quiet one.

Allmann attended sign language classes at Gallaudet University, Washington D.C.'s University for the Deaf.

She has always had a passion for linguistics and has studied Spanish, French, Latin and Arabic. During her freshman year at the College, Allman decided that "linguistics was a versatile major that could reconcile [her] varied language interests."

At Gallaudet, the elementary sign language classes were taught by a Deaf professor.

"The entire environment living at Gallaudet was startling and enlightening," Allman said. "Imagine eating three meals a day in a silent cafeteria... It was holistically a very eye-opening experience."

Besides an elementary knowledge of American Sign Language, Allmann returns with an increased

See SUMMERS page 4



COURTESY PHOTO — SHAY JANNAT

Shay Jannat '10 spent part of her summer in Bangladesh doing research. She is one of many College students who spent their summer abroad.

NEWSINSIGHT

The Flat Hat

‘Stabilitas et Fides’

25 Campus Center, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA. 23185
Editorial Dept. (757) 221-3281 • Advertising Dept. (757) 221-3283 • Fax (757) 221-3242

The Flat Hat — editor@flathatnews.com
News — news@flathatnews.com • Variety — variety@flathatnews.com • Sports — sports@flathatnews.com
Reviews — reviews@flathatnews.com • Opinions — opinions@flathatnews.com
Advertising — ads@flathatnews.com

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Ashley Baird, Managing Editor • Chase Johnson, Executive Editor
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Corrections

The Flat Hat wishes to correct any facts printed incorrectly. Corrections may be submitted by e-mail to the section editor in which the incorrect information was printed. Requests for corrections will be accepted at any time.

Weather

Friday



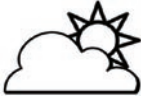
High 86°
Low 69°

Saturday



High 86°
Low 68°

Sunday



High 90°
Low 64°

Source: www.weather.com

Quotes of the Week

“*You know, you’re not going to walk out and get the paper in your underwear. I’m careful not to do that.*”
— College President Gene Nichol on living on campus
See **NICHOL** page 1

“*UCAB had been looking at Guster hot and heavy in the spring. And it just so happened that they were looking for a Virginia date in October.*”
— Assistant director of student activities Joe Lowder on booking Guster for this year’s Homecoming concert
See **GUSTER** page 1

News in Brief

Police hope to deter copper thieves

Responding to thieves who stole an estimated \$9,500 worth of copper wire this summer, police are unveiling a new technology called DataDots.

The technology works by putting microscopic dots on the wire and assigning a different type of dot to each owner of the copper wire. When police find the stolen wire they are able to return it to its owner.

Police have made the technology public in the hope that it will deter further copper theft in the region.

The Associated Press reported that copper wire was stolen from the Dillard complex on two separate occasions this summer.

Eleven students given Fulbright scholarships

Eleven students from the College are traveling abroad on Fulbright scholarships this year. They will be spending a year in countries ranging from Oman and Taiwan to Hungary.

The Fulbright scholarship is sponsored by the U.S. State Department and “aims to increase mutual understanding between the peoples of the United States and other countries, through the exchange of persons, knowledge, and skills.” The awards are given out for demonstrated leadership as well as academic and professional success.

The Charles Center at the College helps students fill out applications and write essays for the award. According to a College press release, the number of students given the award has risen over the last few years.

— by Maxim Lott

By the Numbers

\$331,942

College President Gene Nichol’s salary. In February, a member of the state House of Delegates attempted to cut Nichol’s salary in half unless he restored the Wren cross.

575

The number of permanent chairs at the renovated Lake Matoaka Amphitheater. The arena also has terraced lawn seating, and can accommodate 1,700 people.

9

The average number of students across the country who are murdered each year on college campuses, according to USA Today. This compares to over 1,000 who die each year from binge drinking.

45

The number of messenger pigeons that Reuters News Wire service used to carry news in 1850. At the time, messenger pigeons were the fastest way to send stock market updates, beating train delivery times between Brussels and Germany by six hours. Reuters is now worth approximately \$17.6 billion.

— by Maxim Lott



COURTESY PHOTO — WIKIPEDIA COMMONS

Parents of a student who died at Purdue university were awarded \$500,000, the maximum amount Indiana state law allows.

BEYOND THE BURG

Purdue parents awarded \$500,000 settlement

University creates a scholarship to honor student who died last January

By **KARA STARR**
Flat Hat Assoc. News Editor

After a freshman at Purdue University died due to an alcohol-related accident, the parents of the student were awarded a \$500,000 settlement and the university established a scholarship fund in the student’s name.

Freshman Wade Steffey disappeared last January for two months after attending a fraternity party.

His body was recovered in a utility room, and a report from a consulting group hired by Purdue to investigate the accident concluded that he died

after touching an electrically-charged transformer while feeling his way through the dark room. His blood alcohol content was above 0.08.

Purdue officials stated that the utility room was searched in the days following Steffey’s disappearance, but not thoroughly.

“This agreement brings to a close a tragic chapter in the history of the Purdue family,” Purdue Vice President for University Relations Joseph Bennett said to the Washington Post. “The entire university community continues to mourn for the loss of this young man.”

The family sued Purdue and

won the settlement Aug. 28. The settlement includes the Wade Steffey Memorial Scholarship, which will be partially run by Steffey’s parents.

The fund will be available in fall 2008 for students from Indiana attending Purdue.

Indiana law mandates that no settlement for damages exceed \$500,000, and many other states have similar limits.

The settlement fund far exceeds Virginia state law’s cap on settlements for damages, which is \$100,000. The families of the 32 Virginia Tech massacre victims were each given \$180,000, while wounded students received less.

STREET BEAT

What did you think of orientation?



It was a good way to meet people. A bit long.

Austin Strange ’11



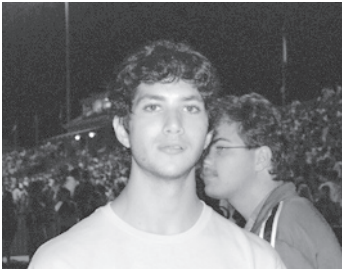
Loved it. It was fun, though tiring.

Brittney Calloway ’11



Too long. Not enough down time.

Calvin Kao ’11



Good way to meet people, but a little too confining.

Nick Zussman ’11

— photos and interviews by Spencer Atkinson

CAMPUS POLICE BEAT

August 21-August 28



Tuesday, August 21 — An IBM laptop computer was reported stolen from Washington Hall and later recovered.

1

Friday, August 24 — A bike with an estimated value of \$125 was reported stolen from Landrum Attic. The student reported the bike missing after storing it there over the summer.

2

Saturday, August 2 — A student who parked their bike at Morton Hall over the summer reported that it was missing.

3

Sunday, August 26 — Six to seven people reportedly came into Unit H and stole a cell phone valued at \$120 and food.

4

Monday, August 27 — A minor was found in possession of alcohol at Dupont Hall.

5

— A bike, valued at \$200, was reported stolen from the Daily Grind.

6

— A beer bottle was reportedly thrown off the third floor of Unit A. The suspect is being referred to the administration.

4

—compiled by Carl Siegmund

Undergraduate admissions moves to new, improved building

Office in renovated building on Jamestown Road expected to make better first impressions for prospective students than Blow Hall

By MORGAN FIGA
Flat Hat Assoc. News Editor

Prospective students visiting campus no longer get their first impression of the College at Blow Memorial Hall. The Office of Undergraduate Admissions moved from Blow Hall to a newly renovated building on Jamestown Road near the Campus Center.

“The new building has improved our capability to make a strong first impression,” Henry Broadus, dean of admissions, told University Relations. “It’s a great foyer for the College.”

The 17,000-square-foot building used to house the bookstore until the bookstore moved to its current Merchant’s Square location in 2001.

The \$2.8 million renovation project began last summer and was completed in June. Broadus told University Relations that he felt the new admissions office did a better job of introducing prospective students to campus.

Among its features, the new building has a session room that can seat up to 300 people and new, state-of-the-art audio and visual equipment.

According to University Relations, more than 25,000 people visit the admissions office each year.

As of now, there will be no major changes to Blow Memorial Hall. The School of Business, Counseling Center, Financial Aid Office and the Bursar’s Office will all remain. In 2009, the business school will move into Arthur B. Miller Hall, currently under construction on the site of the Common Glory Parking Lot.

“When we talk about being a ‘21st century university,’ we want our facilities to reflect that. This will help move us in that direction and more in line with our peers. Students are more likely to apply after a visit, and this will definitely improve their overall experience,” said Associate Provost for Enrollment Earl T. Granger, according to University Relations.



SPENCER ATKINSON — THE FLAT HAT
The undergraduate admissions office moved to a newly renovated building located on Jamestown Road.

Va. counties rank wealthiest

By ANDY ZAHN
Flat Hat Editor-in-Chief

Two populous Northern Virginia counties once again top the U.S. Census list of wealthiest counties in the country.

Leading the list this year is Fairfax County, which had a median household income of \$100,318 in 2006.

Fairfax County was followed by Loudoun County, with a median household income of \$99,371.

In 2006, 991 students at the

College, or about 18 percent, came from Fairfax County and 131 came from Loudoun.

Rounding out the top five counties by median household income are Howard County, Md. with a median household income of \$94,260, Hunterdon County, N.J. with a median income of \$93,297 and Douglas County, Co. with a median income of \$92,125.

Last year, Loudoun County topped the list, followed by Fairfax, Hunterdon, Howard and Somerset County in New Jersey.

Maryland, with a median household income of \$65,144, was the wealthiest state in 2006, measured by median household income according to the census, followed by New Jersey, Connecticut, Hawaii and Massachusetts. Virginia, with a median household income of \$56,277, was ranked ninth.

The national average household income in 2006 was \$48,451.

The Census data, part of the American Community Survey, was released Aug. 28.

Judicial Council reform on hold

Sadler says SA proposal to hold elections for Judicial Council candidates “requires more consultation and consideration”

By MAXIM LOTT
Flat Hat Deputy News Editor

Sam Sadler, the vice president for student affairs, announced in a campus-wide e-mail last week that he was recommending five short changes to the Student Handbook that were proposed by the Student Assembly last spring. For now he declined to support a proposed change in the way that Judicial Council members are selected. The proposed change calls for members to be elected by students. Currently, members of the council are appointed by the administration

“[The proposal] requires more consultation and consideration,” Sadler wrote.

The SA proposal says that the change would give students more control over the system and better reflect student diversity.

“The 13 undergraduate members of the Judicial Council are presently selected through a process coordinated by the Dean of Students Office,” the proposal said. “We believe that this process, as currently manifested, does not result in a selection of members that is truly representative of our diverse student body — a goal that would be more readily achieved by increasing the influence of the student body in selecting its representation on the undergraduate Judicial Council.”

A May 8 e-mail from Sadler detailed the objections from the Dean of Students Office.

“In an electoral system, each candidate is chosen individually without regard to the overall composition of the Council; accordingly, it is possible that the persons elected ultimately will have interests in a narrow range of responsibilities (such as case management rather than education) or represent a relatively small segment of the College’s population (for instance, it is easier for large blocks of student groups to elect a disproportionate number of members to the Council.)”

Student Assembly President Zach Pilchen ’09 agreed with Sadler’s conclusion. “A popular election would do little to help the situation,” he wrote in an e-mail to The Flat Hat. “Students want a Judicial Council with members who are exhaustive in the pursuit of justice, are creative thinkers and above all, know what it’s like to be an average student at William and Mary. There is simply no way to determine those things from a popular election with a brief blurb from each candidate, as was proposed.”

SA senate chair Matt Beato ’09 was more supportive, noting that students would have to be approved by a committee before being allowed to run for judicial council. “I do not see a problem with an election of candidates

who have gone through a panel — these judicial council members would have been selected through a panel anyway,” Beato said.

The proposed panel would consist of six students and the Dean of Students. An applicant would be turned down if rejected by five committee members.

Beato also said that the administration had violated the student handbook rules by selecting judicial council members. Beato said that only students are supposed to have voting rights on the Judicial Council selection committee.

“Each year the Dean of Students office will coordinate an application/selection process,” the Student Handbook currently reads. “A committee consisting of the Student Assembly Vice President, the Dean of Students or designee, a faculty member who has served as a member of the Judicial Council (all three serving as ex-officio, non-voting members), along with two students who have been Judicial members, and two undergraduate council members will select judicial council nominees.”

Sadler did not reject the current proposal outright and said he will form a council to look into the issue. Both Beato and Pilchen said that some reform of the judicial council was necessary.

“There are several very specific changes that must be made to the judicial code,” Pilchen said.

Department in disarray over tenure decisions

PHILOSOPHY from page 1

conflicts of interest between those doing the hiring and the future of the institution in terms of maintaining or even raising standards when standards are at stake,” Harris said. “Here there is no oversight, nor is there in many other places.”

The external review also spoke with former faculty members who claimed that women were mistreated.

What upset many professors, however, was not the content of the report but that it was released without first giving faculty a chance to respond.

“This was grossly unfair and calls into question the impartiality of the outside review process upon which the dean relies,” Noah Lemos, the former philosophy department chair, said.

Lemos never agreed with the position put forth by Davies and Harris, but as a result of the conflict, he was replaced as head of the department by English professor Terry Meyers.

Lemos, responding to the Inside Higher Ed article, denied that any mistreatment of junior faculty has taken place and argued that it is improper to make sweeping and anonymous allegations of wrongdoing.

“How were they mistreated and by whom? What is the evidence of such mistreatment? We are not told. It is impossible to respond to anonymous and unknown charges,” he said. “The College has grievance procedures designed to protect the rights of the accuser and the accused. If there were substantive cases of mistreatment, this procedure should have been followed.”

No grievances have been filed against any philosophy faculty members.

One woman, however, alleged mistreatment by the department to Inside Higher Ed. Brie Gertler was a professor at the College until 2001. She says she left after witnessing how a colleague ahead of her on the tenure track was treated.

She claimed that the colleague — despite endorsements from top contemporary philosophers — was voted down, and that she

feared she would not receive fair consideration either.

“By enabling the department to attract and retain promising junior faculty [by placing the department under receivership], this decision will allow the department to achieve its potential,” she told Inside Higher Ed. “There are talented philosophers there, some wonderful people who are first-rate scholars and dedicated teachers. I am glad to know that those faculty are getting the administrative support they need to achieve their goals.”

She said that the move to place the department in receivership was “courageous” and that it demonstrated “excellent judgment.”

Lemos denies that the professor was mistreated.

“The decision to deny [Gertler’s colleague] tenure was supported by all the appropriate committees of the College, as well as the dean and the provost of the College [at the time],” Lemos said. “From what I know about the case, he was treated fairly by the department and the College. I think Professor Gertler’s calling the dean’s decision to put the philosophy department in receivership ‘courageous’ was grossly mistaken.”

Gertler, who is now a tenured member of the University of Virginia’s philosophy department, declined further comment.

Lemos said that since 2000, the department has faced five tenure decisions, four of which were approved.

Additionally, since 2000, five junior faculty members have left for other positions, and in one instance the professor turned down tenure in favor of another position. Harris said in response to the charges that the department has assisted junior faculty.

“We once raised teaching loads for senior faculty to meet an administration request but exempted junior faculty so that they could concentrate on their teaching and research,” he said. “We instituted a junior leave policy for them. We have given them smaller classes. We have reduced their teaching loads. We have made exceptions for them

in terms of finishing their degrees despite the fact that it was a condition of their hire that they be finished before taking up their jobs here.”

What Harris and Davies want is a new external review, done properly.

“We want the external review done over again and monitored for objectivity by a source independent of the administration,” Harris said. “We will cooperate with any reforms in the department or the College administration that are the result of such objective inquiry and impartial attempt to balance the pursuit of academic excellence with a collegial environment.”

Gertler and others, though, are quick to point out that Harris and Davies have declined to meet with the external investigators.

“Given its serious consequences, receivership is unjustified, especially when less drastic alternatives were available,” Lemos said. “The decision to put the department in receivership will have very bad consequences. It will damage our ability to recruit and retain outstanding people. It will hurt morale in the department. The consequences for the department will be severe and long-lasting.”

Classifieds

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Nichol sits with FH in his first interview of year

INTERVIEW *from page 1*

who agreed with me and didn't agree with me on this committee. ... I think we're better off than we were.

FH: How will you go about making such decisions in the future?

Nichol: Well, I would surely go slower on some controversial matters. I will consult more broadly, as I have said many times. I think that's part of learning to be an effective university president. ... I was a law school dean for a long time, and sometimes law school deans can move with more dispatch ... than is wise for a university president. And so I think I've learned some lessons from that experience. By the same token, I think the Wren Chapel issue involved questions that are very important to the nature of the College and to its future as a remarkable public institution. So I think there are lessons learned, and there are steps gained.

FH: I interviewed Board of Visitors Rector Michael Powell last semester, and he told me that he believes the controversy will have an overall negative financial impact on the College. Do you think so and how has the controversy affected your relationship with the BOV?

Nichol: I am glad to have a continuing strong relationship with the Board of Visitors. We work together a lot They are accomplished and heartening folks to work with — I rely on their advice a good deal. I wouldn't say that each of them has agreed uniformly, probably, with everything I've done as president, but I'm glad that we have a strong relationship and we continue to. You know that the cross controversy had some financial impacts on us. I think that they were short-term — they reflect relationships which we are working hard to rebuild. By the same token, you have to say that the Capital Campaign was a huge success — we exceeded \$517 million. Last year, we had, thankfully, the largest senior class gift in the College's history. We had the largest fiftieth reunion class gift in the College's history — \$12 million. For the first time, the annual fund exceeded \$5 million, which is very important to our ongoing operations. ...

FH: Powell also said that he and other College administrators would be contacting James McGlothlin about returning his revoked \$12 million donation. Has McGlothlin been contacted and does he plan to return the money he previously pledged to the College?

Nichol: I've talked to Mr. McGlothlin. ... We've had friendly conversations, and we will continue to do that — we will continue to work on this relationship. I haven't asked him to make any particular financial commitment, and that initial decision of his has not been changed. Like a lot of other long-term relationships, we will continue to work on it and have these conversations. He's an important member of this community.

FH: As a result of the Wren cross controversy, your every move is scrutinized by people who want you fired. There's even a website calling on the Board of Visitors to not renew your contract when it expires in 2008. How are you dealing with this intense scrutiny?

Nichol: Well, it's interesting. It makes life fascinating. I have found life to be fascinating as president of the College of William and Mary. To be honest, I know there's a lot of this blog work. I don't pay a great deal of attention to it. I think if I did — if I was a great scrutinizer of blogs — that's what I could do full-time. And I have a lot of work to do. ...

FH: You were once a more visible president, going around to dorms to speak with students and often attending sporting events. Now that the controversy has played out, do you plan to return to being the easily accessible president that you were and how else do you plan to move on?

Nichol: I would modestly disagree with that factual assessment. I was all over this campus all of the time last year as well. Now sometimes — given this controversy — others claim that it wasn't so. I have been here all over this campus for the last two weeks, as you likely know, with the beginning of school. It is the part that I like best — being with the students, being at university events across the board, participating heavily in them. I was over in the dorms a couple days ago helping

to move people in. I was out here with hundreds of parents for several hours late last week. It is my nature to be in the middle of this campus; it is what I like doing most. People won't have any lack of opportunities to see the president of the College of William and Mary as long as I'm the president of the College of William and Mary.

FH: The College fell this year from 31st to 33rd in U.S. News and World Report's annual college rankings. We were particularly concerned about the peer assessment score of 3.7, a drop from the score of 3.8 that the College had maintained for several years. How much value do you place on College rankings and what will the college do to improve in the future?

Nichol: I do think they're important because people pay attention to them — people watch them. I was disappointed in this modest dropping from ... 31st to 33rd. Now, I should point out that the College remains the sixth-best public university in the United States ... [and] the best small state university in America. ... I think, in truth, the reason for this modest change — which I don't like, I'm not happy with and I'm not



THE FLAT HAT — ALEX HAGLAND
Nichol talked to the Flat Hat about Gateway, the logo and the Va. Tech football game.

going to be satisfied to see maintained — the modest drop has to do with our resources picture. If you study those rankings, they give a hard time — perhaps intentionally, perhaps unintentionally — to public universities. As you see, there are no public universities in the top 20 of U.S. News — an absurd result. I don't think you could talk to any thoughtful person in American higher education who would say there aren't public universities in the top 20 in American higher education. But public universities frequently have a different resource picture — largely because of tuition — than is the case with privates. The two universities most relevant to us on this one are ... Brandeis and Lehigh. They're about, as I understand, 47th in per-student resources, where as we are 106th. ... The College of William and

I've talked to Mr. McGlothlin.

... We've had friendly conversations, and we will continue to do that — we will continue to work on this relationship. I haven't asked him to make any particular financial commitment, and that initial decision of his has not been changed.

Mary is 106th in resources and, under this measure, 33rd in quality. That reflects the difficulty that public universities with lower tuition models can have. And it reflects our long-term challenges of building an endowment, which is essential to our success. I'm not satisfied with this. We are going to look at the way the College responds to these rankings — look at the factors in which we have some opportunity to have an impact. But the main thing — the main thing I'm after — is to take what I think already is ... the strongest educational experience of any public university in the United States and make it even better. That will eventually pay off well and highly in these and all other rankings. And William and Mary's main goal is to be the best public university the nation has to offer — to be able to do things which no other public university can accomplish. I think we're making real progress on that front, and I think we'll continue to do so. So, I think that the future of the College — no matter how you measure it, now matter how you look at it — is very bright and appealing and strong.

FH: Applications to the College increased this year by 0.9 percent, while U.Va. and many of our other peer schools saw much higher increases in the number of applications. With the applicant pool skyrocketing, why isn't the College keeping up and what will be done to attract more applicants?

Nichol: I think the College is keeping up. The College had more applications this year than at any time in its history. Now it may seem that that's not much, to some, but that's not the way I look at it. I think we have as strong an entering class as we've ever had in our history. Some of the questions about the number of applications relate to people's perceptions about their chance of being admitted, but there is no doubt that this is a tremendous entering pool from which we chose. ... I'm immensely heartened at the credentials of this entering class — the fact that this entering class has more first-generation students than any of its predecessors, more international students than its predecessors. ... I think our admissions portrait is very appealing, and we will constantly recruit students beyond the road, taking the case of William and Mary across the commonwealth and across the nation, as we

experience which the entire student body enjoys, if we are to be successful. A diverse institution is a more powerful one — educationally, academically — and so we are committed to becoming more diverse in that sense, and we're making some

I would surely go slower on some controversial matters. I will consult more broadly, as I have said many times. I think that's part of learning to be an effective university president.

substantial progress. ... The opening up of the College to different paths — different walks of life into our door — is one I think that is strongly beneficial to the whole community and that's the centerpiece of why I'm committed to it. ...

FH: You strongly opposed the voter registration policies of former Registrar Dave Andrews. Now that he has been replaced, do you think the inequalities in voter registration eligibility are still a problem and how do you plan to continue fighting for standardized guidelines across the state?

Nichol: It is my understanding ... that real progress is being made. ... My goal has been to try and push back against the notion that these remarkable William and Mary students who are such powerful contributors to this community in every sense that you want to describe it — from William and Mary students getting a different treatment than students all across the commonwealth. I think real progress has been made on that front, and that's been the focus of my efforts.

FH: Several administrators have said that they feel that the NCAA's decision on the logo gives the College an opportunity to redefine its overall image. Do you also see this as opportunity and why?

Nichol: Well, I think it is. It's probably not one that I would have rushed to — I've never agreed with the way the NCAA reached its conclusions. As you know, Sam Sadler's chairing a committee to look at the logo that we will use in the future. That will include a broader look too at the impressions made by our publications — a sort of branding, if you will — so it's a nice opportunity on that front. ... We've overlooked it some, but I am very heartened that we are still using the term Tribe. We've had a lot of discussion about feathers and, to me, the feathers — I think the position the NCAA took was indefensible, and I said that as quickly as I could — but I think the most important part of the calculus for us — for me anyway — [is] the use of the term Tribe, which I think is meant here in an ennobling fashion. It's a description that fits this community and the way we feel bound together, and so I am glad that we will remain the Tribe, even as we look at other ways of crafting the logo to get across the message of the College of William and Mary.

FH: Last year, the housing lottery involuntarily bumped 326 students — an increase of 150 from the previous year. What is being done to solve this problem and have you considered reopening the Dillard Complex?

Nichol: I think you should go talk to Sam Sadler about reopening the Dillard Complex. This is a real issue — it's one that we are looking hard about, thinking about it. It reflects somewhat of a change — what I think is an encouraging change in the number and percentage of students who want to live on campus. I think some of that may have to do with opportunities they have or don't have off-campus. I bet a lot of it ... has to do with Jamestown and how nice that dorm is. I don't anticipate — to be honest, partly because Sam had been working for so many decades to get the Dillard closed down — that ... we're going to be running out to reopen Dillard. Our goal is to have this be, at even a higher percentage, a residential experience. It's already very high in that, but I think the wiser course for us — if the demand can sustain it in the future — is to build more dormitories. ... I like the fact that such a high percentage of our students want to live at the heart of this campus. I think it says a lot about the experience at the College of William and Mary and so we may be seeking to reach a higher percentage of residents in the future.

FH: What are your plans for attracting more college-friendly businesses to Williamsburg?

Nichol: Well, they are multi-faceted. And the most direct answer to that is that we have formed now a real estate foundation which is a joint project of the College of William and Mary foundation and the Board of Visitors. It is looking at retail properties around the College. We have a number of holdings that we could perhaps sell in order to finance other ventures in Williamsburg and outside of Williamsburg. But the purpose of this real estate foundation is to help secure more student-friendly retail around the perimeter of campus. Now, I'm heartened about New Town myself. ... If we could find more appealing ways for students to get back and forth to campus, I think New Town could play a real role in this. But our principal focus is on the areas within walking distance by student calculus ... of the campus and wanting to have more to do at night. ... I think we will see some progress in that we have the tools in place to begin to do it. It's not going to happen overnight, but we spent a lot of time putting this framework in place. We have put some resources into it. We are in discussions with property owners in various parts of the city, and we hope to make progress within the near future.

FH: What are some other goals for the next year?

Nichol: The powerful notion, which lies at the heart of the College, is we have at present, I think, the strongest, most engaged educational experience of any public university in the country. We want to move to make that even stronger, even more effective. So we are working on initiatives ... to more effectively fund and support undergraduate research, faculty and student research. We are carrying forward initiatives to provide more what we're calling "capstone courses" at the junior and senior levels — small, independent learning experiences for students which will mean, increasingly, that the senior year at the College of William and Mary is an effective training ground for the graduate and professional work that so many of our students are planning to undertake. We will give a lot of focus on civic engagement during this calendar year. ... Students come here believing they can change the world, and it's our goal, increasingly, to have them leave with those capabilities. We will be exploring a lot, linking these efforts to our broader goal to internationalize the campus. We will have in the fall semester a broad-reaching, faculty-driven study of the more effective internationalization of the College — bringing the work of the global community more effectively to Williamsburg and bringing the work of the College more effectively to the world at large. ...

FH: I assume that by now you've settled into your new home. How do you like living on campus?

Nichol: I like it a lot. To be honest, I wasn't sure about that. It's a bit of a fish bowl. You know, you're not going to walk out and get the paper in your underwear — I'm careful not to do that. But I have found it delightful, and no small part of that is the interaction

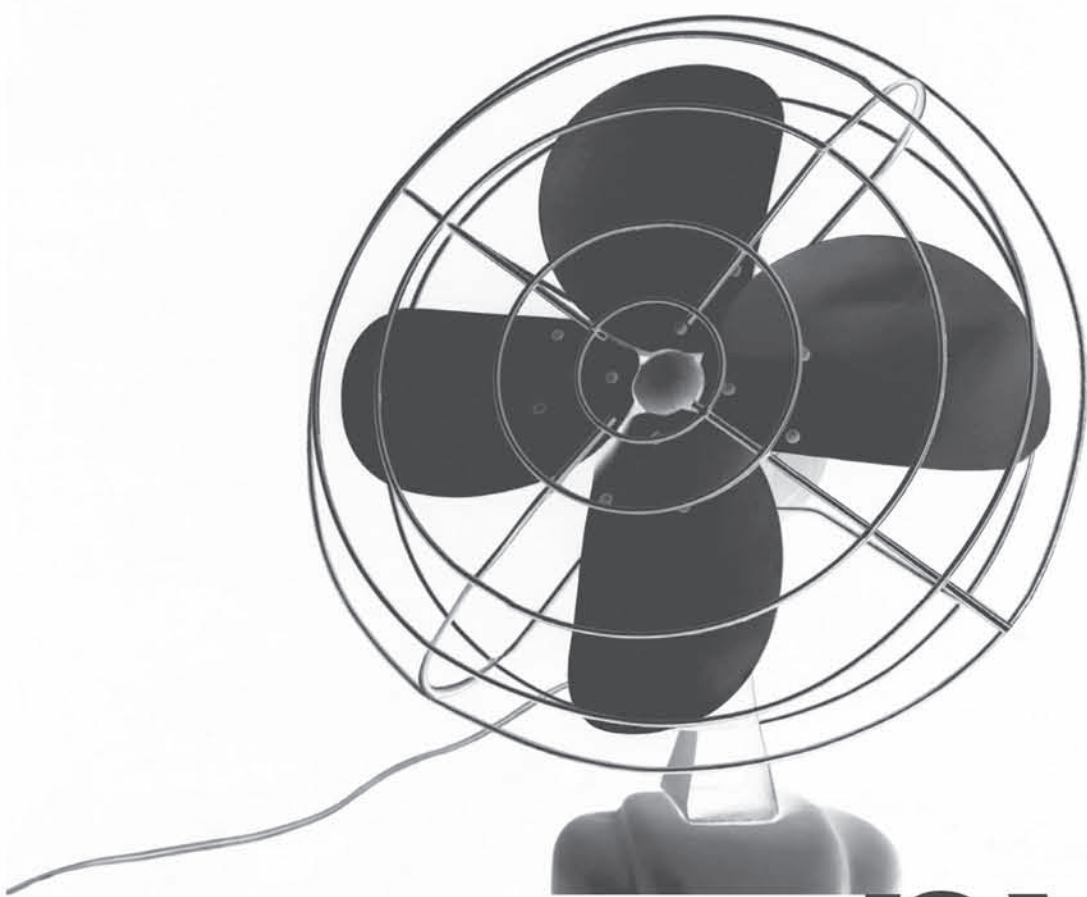
It's a cool house too — it's a little formal, but it's inspiring. You can't live there without thinking repeatedly about who has been there before you and what that has meant.

which we have with my family and students as a result of location. People come by a lot — they knock on the door, and I suppose there are many different ways you could look at that — but I find it appealing. ... They come by and say hello and bring some brownies and say hello to the dog or they'll pet the cats, and I find it a very central and appealing part of the life here. It gives one a much different sense of the role that you play at the College, and I like it. It's a cool house too — it's a little formal, but it's inspiring. You can't live there without thinking repeatedly about who has been there before you and what that has meant. ...

FH: Lastly, do you have any advice for the football team on how to crack Virginia Tech's notoriously tough defense in Blacksburg on September 22?

Nichol: Well, my heart goes out to the football team and my hat goes off to them and to Jimmie for his ambition. There's one thing that's clear and it's that the College of William and Mary and Jimmie Laycock and his troops — they're not scared to play Virginia Tech. And I think if Virginia Tech thinks they're going to have an easy time, I bet they're going to be wrong.

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STAFF EDITORIAL

Judicial changes not needed

An Aug. 23 e-mail from Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler confirmed that the College is still considering remodeling the selection process of Judicial Council members. The new proposals — recommended last spring by representatives of the Student Assembly as part of the College’s annual efforts to modify and update the Student Handbook — advocated a campus-wide vote, similar to the electoral process practiced by the school’s Honor Council, to ultimately decide the members of the Judicial Council. We applaud the Student Assembly’s efforts to make constructive changes on campus, but in this case, there is little to be fixed.

The current Judicial Council selection consists of an arduous application and interview process — one that is largely carried out behind closed doors — which ensures that the members selected are of the highest integrity and character, and also prevents selected members from holding allegiances to specific students.

The current Judicial Council represents the interests of all parties. Students are offered the option of having their case reviewed by their peers, and these peers are themselves bound to the ideals, laws and regulations of the College. Under the current system, the integrity of the College is never compromised.

A campus-wide vote has the potential to become a College-wide popularity contest, which, in turn, could undermine the entire judicial system. While enhanced student involvement in dictating campus policy is generally a good thing, the proposed selection process, as the Dean of Students Office correctly pointed out in its response to the suggested changes, has the poten-

tial to produce a Judicial Council with a very narrow range of views. This is largely because voters do not necessarily select candidates that will combine to form a well-balanced group that is representative of the entire student body.

Perhaps the biggest problem with the proposed changes relates to the responsibilities and mandate of the new panel. The Judicial Council deals with cases of extreme severity and, in many instances, breaches of campus policy that can result in suspension or expulsion. Often, the entire future of a student’s academic career, if not his or her life, is in the hands of these members, and it is of the utmost importance that this panel is not chosen by an election decided primarily by reputations, pictures and generic blurbs on SIN.

There are other problems with this system. Simply omitting a picture from the online election page — as suggested by the Student Assembly to protect the candidates — is not enough. In an age of Facebook

and other social networking tools, the Judicial Council members could potentially be subjected to enhanced scrutiny or harassment, which would surely be detrimental to their effectiveness and objectivity in handling cases.

Sadler mentioned in this same message that he believes the debate requires an extra semester of working with current Judicial Council members to decide if the process should be altered. With such an important change on the agenda, the additional time is warranted, but changes to the current selection system are not. In order to maintain the integrity, effectiveness and reputation of the Judicial Council, it is imperative that the application and selection processes are not changed.

A campus-wide vote has the potential to become a College-wide popularity contest, which, in turn, could undermine the entire judicial system.

The Flat Hat welcomes submissions to the Opinions section. Letters to the Editor and Opinions columns are due at 5 p.m. Sunday for publication the following Tuesday and at 5 p.m. Wednesday for the following Friday. All submissions must be typed and double-spaced, and must include the author’s name, telephone number and any relevant titles or affiliations with campus or national groups. Letters may be no more than 300 words; columns may not be less than 500 words nor more than 700. Letters must be e-mailed to opinions@flathatnews.com. The Flat Hat reserves the right to edit all material. Because of space limitations, The Flat Hat may not publish all submissions. The Flat Hat Editorial Board meets before each issue to discuss the position taken by editorials. Unsigned editorials are written by a designated member of the Editorial Board. All Board editorials reflect the consensus of the Editorial Board. Letters, columns, graphics and cartoons reflect the view of the author only.

Hope for the best; prepare for the worst

Sherif Abdelkarim
FLAT HAT STAFF COLUMNIST



Walking home from the activities fair, I take in the last of that unseen summer breeze — sizzling things up, assessing the campus grounds through the lens of an upperclassman. Feels good. Having stuck it out for two years, I now hold rank among the upper echelon of the undergraduate hierarchy. I’ve earned the right to carry myself with the vaunted effect of a venerated general, smirking in self-congratulation, evaluating with impersonal pride the Class of 2011, to whom this column is addressed.

With disorientation week out of the way, freshmen now stand with a promising year before them. But there’s a trick, they won’t know this just yet — not until they’ve suffered a little. In the scheme of things, I doubt half these freshmen know where they stand, where they should stand or whether they’re standing at all.

We all remember our first semesters. It was an overly self-conscious semester of finding your comfort zone in an unfamiliar environment. You almost wished you had a notepad to take down those many names you couldn’t remember. Even with a campus this small, we managed to get lost. And then there were those elemental tasks of eating right, sleeping on time, doing laundry, etc.

Some freshmen can’t help but look like lost tourists, struggling beyond agitation to walk around with their overbearingly inflated expectations of “finding themselves,” getting laid or a combination of both heaped above their heads. I guess everyone is expecting something out of this place, expecting something to magically pop out and grab them by the heartstrings. This isn’t going to happen.

I don’t think there’s anything else the College can do to prepare you for your freshman year. They can offer all the mixers in the world, prepare hundreds of warm, welcoming speeches and it won’t help. Not until you’ve lived here long enough will you get an idea of how things work.

Don’t worry about grades your first semester. Or at least don’t expect any immaculate report cards like they gave away back in high school.

Instead, expect to have your asses served to you on a silver platter. That’s as good an expectation as anyone can have, at this point. Worry more about branching out from your freshman hall. Don’t get me wrong, your freshman hall will always be your family, but they can also hold you back. The thing with freshmen is that they tend to wander in large packs, like muddled geese. Your vulnerability betrays you when you roam in a bunch — you’ll find yourself mindlessly moving to the rule of the mob, making easy prey for frats.

Things aren’t as neatly tied together as they were in high school. Here, you have to apply a hands-on approach — discover the extracurriculars yourself. The seminar is silent, seemingly unfriendly, nothing like the eight-hour social sessions you enjoyed through high school. Make a conscious effort to look for fun yourself.

The students are very approachable. We’re not as intimidating as we make ourselves out to be, we were all freshmen, too. Most of us get a kick out of helping underclassmen out, readily dispatching whatever words of wisdom we’ve picked up along the college way, assuming the role of the experienced older brother, explaining

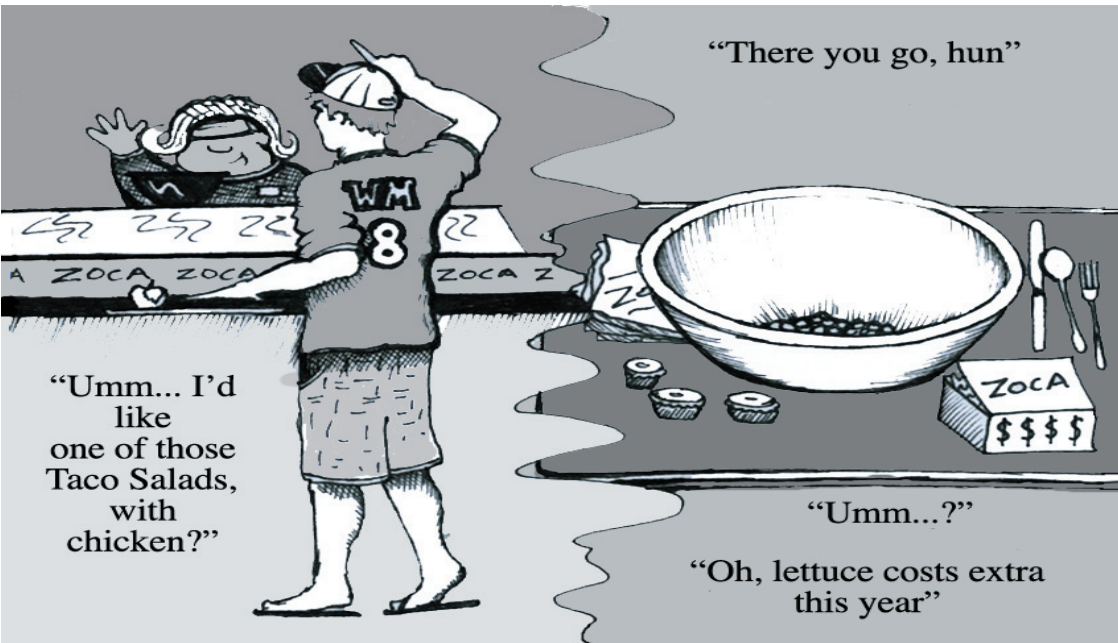
The best thing to do is consider yourselves without options, to see yourselves in the worst possible light and stick it out.

how things work, giving you a hand and sweating for you.

The best thing to do is to consider yourselves without options, to see yourselves in the worst possible light and stick it out. Once you get over that first semester hump of average grades and deflated expectations, you’ll be well broken in. Eventually you’ll move up, looking back on your first year with the same self-satisfied smirk all ex-freshmen share.

When I look at this eager class of fresh faces, it feels like yesterday I was in their tough position, and all I can express is the relief and joy in how good it feels to be out of their miserable, little shoes. But I get ahead of myself. Just remember that everything’s in your hands: You decide your level of involvement, you determine your degree of success and your level of happiness.

Sherif Abdelkarim is a junior at the College.



BY NATE BURGESS, FLAT HAT GRAPHICS EDITOR

Stay safe, freshmen women

Devan Barber

FLAT HAT STAFF COLUMNIST



I’m sure you’ve all pored over back-to-school lists for the past few weeks trying to figure out what to bring to campus: books and binders, trendy new lamps and storage containers and colorful throw rugs. But for women entering college, one of the most important purchases isn’t found in Target’s hip dorm department, but at the pharmacy: Emergency Contraception, “the morning after pill” and Plan B — all of which refer to a pack of two small pills that can significantly reduce the risk of pregnancy after unprotected sex.

If you choose to be sexually active, you should protect yourself beforehand. Condoms are a must because they can prevent pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections. For women who are sexually active on a regular basis, hormonal birth control can be really convenient. But hey, we’re all pretty intelligent people, and you probably already know about condoms and pills. I’m also sure a lot of you know about the joys of abstinence too, but a lot of women all over the country don’t know much about EC.

Up until recently, if you had sex and the condom broke, you were screwed (no pun intended). If you didn’t plan on having sex but it just happened, you were screwed again. And if, God forbid, a woman was sexually assaulted, she could only pray that she didn’t become pregnant. But that changed when EC was approved by the FDA for over-the-counter use.

EC can work in three ways to prevent a pregnancy: it can prevent an egg from being released from the ovaries, sperm from fertilizing an egg or a fertilized egg from implanting itself in the uterine wall. According to Planned Parenthood, if taken within 24 hours of unprotected sex, EC can be up to 95 percent effective in preventing a pregnancy. If taken within 72 hours it can reduce your risk by 75

to 89 percent and can also help when taken within the first 120 hours. Now that EC is over-the-counter for women 18 and up, you should be able to ride your bike to the nearest drugstore and buy a pack. I say “should be able to” because women have had problems obtaining EC from overlyzealous pharmacists who find it morally reprehensible.

There is a misconception that EC causes abortion. It does not. EC is birth control, and it cannot terminate a pregnancy. Many people confuse EC with mifepristone (RU-486), the abortion pill, but they are two different drugs. There are some anti-choice activists who know the difference between EC and RU-486, and still believe that EC causes abortion because, for people who oppose abortion for purely religious reasons, life begins at conception. Because EC can prevent a fertilized egg from implanting in the uterine wall, to them, this is abortion. The problem is that the medical community defines “pregnancy” as a fertilized egg that has already implanted itself in the uterine wall. So if we go by medical definitions, EC absolutely cannot cause an abortion.

Another problem with the “EC is abortion” belief is that there is no difference between EC and the

I’m sure a lot of you know about the joys of abstinence too, but a lot of women all over the country don’t know much about EC.

birth control pill. They are made of the exact same hormones (in different doses), and they do the exact same thing. So, people who find EC morally unacceptable also, effectively, oppose birth control.

My point is not to argue with people who oppose abortion, EC, birth control, etc. Everyone is entitled to their own beliefs about reproductive rights. But as young women entering a new realm of independence and uncertainty, it’s important to equip yourselves with all the facts, so you can make informed, healthy choices.

Devan Barber is a senior at the College.

Hillary a disaster for Dems

Jared Calfee

GUEST COLUMNIST



The 2008 Democratic primary has earned focus earlier than any other in recent memory. Some say it’s anyone’s game. Others say Hillary Clinton already has the Democratic nomination locked up based on the poll numbers. So, who is right?

Ironically, they both are. In today’s global age of technology and info-sharing, no scandal can ever break too late. On the other hand, the polls show Clinton with a firm enough lead to claim the primary. The main reason is that once people see the poll numbers, they start to believe them. Plus, undecided voters will support her because everyone likes to root for a winner.

Why is this self-fulfilling prophecy right on track with the string of shots to the foot by the Democrats over the last decade? The polls don’t lie. Yes, Clinton holds a lead in the category of potential Democratic primary voters, but where does she stand with the majority who live in the political center? She has the highest unfavorable rating (54 percent) of any candidate in the race, in either party, and only a 45 percent approval rating, according to Rasmussen Reports. She is viewed as divisive and partisan, and more people want to vote against her than for her. So why will they nominate her? Although high numbers of intellectuals and educated citizens tend to lean to the donkey, Democrats are politically stupid. Perhaps they are too idealistic and unrealistic in elections. Sometimes, you have to nominate someone who can win.

The funny thing is that this time the Democrats could have their cake and eat it too. Obama and Clinton are ideologically similar, except that Obama has favorable and unfavorable ratings of 47 and 45 percent, respectively. Obama is possibly viewed this way because he is a gifted orator who paints a

picture of a fresh face who wants to change the way politics work in America. It could be because his last name isn’t Clinton, a sound which makes even some moderates cringe. But the reason is irrelevant. The Democrats could nominate him, a candidate who would, according to most polls, fare better in a general election match-up against a Republican nominee, while representing Democratic ideals. But they won’t.

In 2000, they nominated Al Gore, but ran a campaign that left it close enough for a judge to decide. In 2004, they nominated John “Anybody but Bush” Kerry, based on, I can only assume, some kind of congressional raffle prize. Now in 2008, with a Democratic Congress, and endless possibilities for the future to advance causes like universal health care, they will nominate Hillary Clinton. She will lose in the general election. If, by some miracle, the Republicans nominate a self-destructive politician like Mitt Romney and Clinton wins, the animosity towards her will cause her to be ridden harder than Secretariat. Her every mistake will be pointed out

[Hillary Clinton] is viewed as divisive and partisan, and more people want to vote against her than for her.

and Congress will shift back to the Republicans, assuring that nothing will get done in her tenure and that another woman won’t be elected for 50 years.

But Democrats will know their mistake long before any of this. Once the Democratic National Convention rolls around and the polls show Rudy Giuliani or Fred Thompson in front, Obama will coolly strut out onto the dais and make a rousing, inspiring and heart-felt speech that will make everyone in the room teary-eyed and proud to be an American. When he is done talking, Hillary will walk out and speak, and Democrats will lower their Clinton signs and look down at the floor, realizing that, once again, they have handed the baton off to the wrong runner.

Jared Calfee is a sophomore at the College.



COURTESY PHOTO — MORETHANTHIS.ORG

Guster is scheduled to perform in the Sunken Garden for Homecoming Oct. 27.

Guster crowned ‘Homecoming King’

By ALEXANDER ELY
Flat Hat Staff Writer

Popular alternative rock band Guster will perform the Homecoming concert in the Sunken Garden Saturday, Oct. 27. The annual concert, sponsored by UCAB, has been a popular event for both alumni and current students. The concert will also feature indie folk artist Brett Dennen, who will open for Guster.

UCAB considered inviting Guster to the College for last year’s spring concert, but instead reached an agreement that brought My Chemical Romance and Muse to Kaplan Arena. Kate Matthews ’09, a member of the UCAB music committee, said that a main goal of the organization is to attract a variety of bands in order to alternate genres of music between concerts.

“We’re trying to satisfy different groups on campus,” Matthews said. “You want to switch it up as much as possible.”

Recent on-campus concerts have included The Wailers, Wilco, The Roots, My Chemical Romance and Nappy Roots. Guster also performed the spring concert in April 2002.

Guster will play in the Sunken Garden as part of a larger Southern tour that includes performances in Raleigh, N.C., Athens, Ga. and Richmond.

According to Assistant Director of Student Activities Joe Lowder, who works as an adviser to UCAB and as a liaison between the school and various entertainment agencies and artists, the College got a “great deal on the band.” He would not reveal how much the College paid the band.

“UCAB had been looking at Guster hot and heavy in the spring,” Lowder said. “And it just so happened that they were looking for a Virginia date in October.” He also said that UCAB used several key tools to discover what bands would be popular with students, including music interest searches on Facebook. On the College’s Facebook network, 350 students list Guster as one of their favorite bands.

“We thought Guster would be a great Homecoming band,” Matthews said. “They have a big fan base on campus and appeal to alumni and students alike.”

The show is free and is open to all, although UCAB is not advertising it outside of the campus community.

UCAB unites creativity and bliss

By ELIZABETH COLE
The Flat Hat

Their yellow T-shirts are ubiquitous — and no, they’re not Orientation Aides. Equally enthusiastic and spirited, a horde of yellow-clad staffers is the unmistakable sign of a UCAB event.

UCAB is the primary student-run programming body on campus. The executive board, advisers and 11 committees collaborate to bring entertainment aplenty to their peers at the College. It is their mission to “provide diverse, high-quality entertainment at a low cost to the College.”

Executive Director Brett Roth ’09 said that UCAB was “the first campus programming board of its kind that focused on school-wide activities” at the College and utilized the campus buildings as hosting venues. UCAB spearheads events both on and off campus to better reach the College community.

The list of UCAB’s committees includes comedy, music, films, contemporary and cultural issues, late-night programming, publicity, member enrichment, special events, web design and Homebrew, a weekly exhibition of stu-

dent-performed music, poetry, drama or art.

With 120 members, UCAB is the largest programming body on campus. According to Roth, it produces upwards of 100 events every semester, not to mention the countless events it hosts in conjunction with other student organizations.

Roth describes UCAB as “an educational tool for all other organizations and individuals who are interested in publicizing, organizing and executing an event.”

UCAB collaborates not only with other student organizations, but also bridges the gap between students and the College administration. Joe Lowder, the assistant director of Student Activities Programming, and Will Thomson, a graduate assistant, advise the UCAB executive board.

As a body that strives to make campus fun, one can imagine the UCAB staffers themselves are, likewise, fun people. Students must apply to become part of a specific committee. The eclectic range of events they offer reflects the people behind the scenes. From presenting a carnival in William and Mary Hall

on the last day of classes to recruiting My Chemical Romance to play a show on campus to periodically serving midnight breakfasts, UCAB offers something for everyone.

Of particular interest to students is the music committee. Its members are responsible for securing and presenting a band for the Homecoming concert in the fall, as well as for a spring concert. This year, UCAB is bringing Guster for the Homecoming concert. Lowder and Jeanna Occhiogrosso ’08, this year’s music committee chair, will scout bands with the rest of the committee for the spring concert that will fit within the UCAB budget and will appeal to students. Former UCAB concerts have included The Nappy Roots, Wilco and Ben Folds.

For UCAB, nothing is too ambitious to try. Last fall, students packed the University Center to meet Tim Gunn, Heidi Klum’s counterpart on the hit Bravo TV show “Project Runway.” Thomas Milteer ’09, current chair of contemporary and cultural issues committee, was pivotal in bringing the reality television star to campus. “A couple of people mentioned that it would be awesome if we could get Tim Gunn to come to campus, because we’re all huge fans of “Project Runway.” ... I searched the internet and found his e-mail address,” Milteer said. Continued correspondence actualized the lofty goal and hundreds of students packed the UC for the popular event, while many more were turned away.

UCAB encourages student input to assist in its event planning, especially on its website, www.wm.edu/ucab. It is always looking to vary its events to satisfy as many people as possible.

For UCAB, no idea is beyond reach or consideration. Last year, it pioneered a school-sponsored tailgate before a football game in the Sunken Garden. Huge crowds and multiple food vendors guaranteed the event will recur again this fall.

See UCAB page 9



FILE PHOTO — THE FLAT HAT

In addition to concerts and movie screenings, UCAB plans a number of unique events, such as board game nights, tailgate parties and lecture series.

Changes across campus update College’s appearance, appeal

By RACHEL OHM
The Flat Hat

Over the summer, the College recieved a facelift. Returning students have noticed a number of changes.

Freshmen were the first students to be seated in the newly renovated Lake Matoaka Amphitheater for a comedy show.

The new amphitheater, which seats 1,700 people, will host events such as



ALICE HAHN — THE FLAT HAT

The Jimmye Laycock Football Center should be completed in 2008.

hypnotist Tom DeLuca on Sept. 1 and concerts throughout the year.

The first phase of the new Integrated Science Center off Landrum Drive is nearing completion, and is set to open March 2008. According to Professor Gary Rice, chair of the chemistry department, the new chemistry and biology labs in the building should be in use after spring break.

“The new facility will provide more opportunities for students to participate in research, but the biggest improvement is in the ability to teach labs safely,” he said.

Rogers Hall, which has been the home of the chemistry department since the mid-1970s, is “far beyond its lifespan,” he added.

What appears from the outside of the chemistry building to be a fifth floor will actually be a space entirely filled with equipment for air filtration — an important consideration in any chemistry or science lab. The building will also house an area for animal observation and experimentation — called a vivarium — and some psychology offices.

The construction is part of a plan that includes the renovation of Rogers Hall and eventually the addition of a third building with more classroom and teaching space for the science departments.

Across campus, the Undergraduate Admissions Office moved from Blow Memorial Hall to a renovated space that used to be the campus bookstore on Jamestown Road near the Campus Center.

The lobby of the 17,000-square-foot building has hardwood floors and a marble counter from behind

which prospective students and their parents may be greeted by an admissions counselor.

The new location has a large room that seats 300 people for information sessions and is complete with a viewing screen and sound system for showing admissions videos — something that wasn’t possible in the old offices.

“We used to have standing room for maybe 200 people,” Admissions Counselor Sandra Brooks said. “We have much more space since we moved here. Even when we are closed on weekends, there is an area where I can leave publications, self-guided tours and information for visitors.”

Admissions counselors can also interview applicants to the College in designated interview rooms in the basement of the building, rather than in the Career Services Center like they used to do.

“We couldn’t be prouder of the Admission Office’s new home,” President Gene Nichol said in a press release July 10. “This beautiful building will help

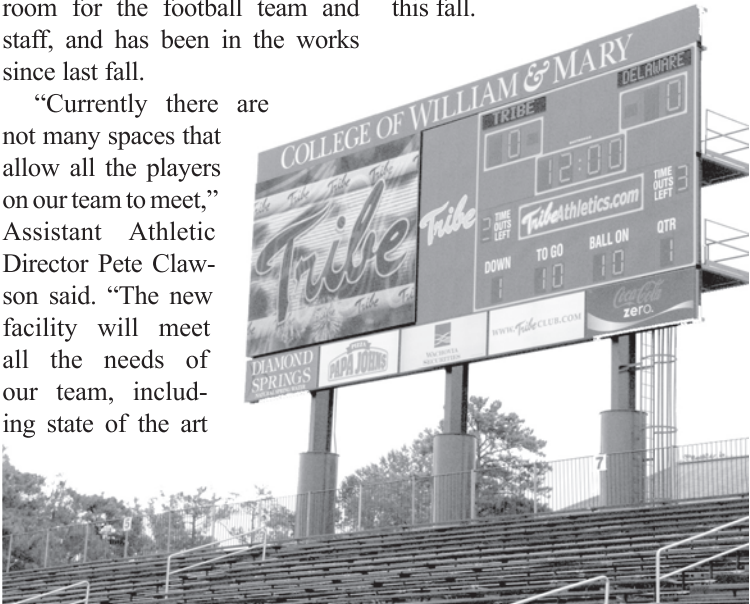
us offer an even more impressive introduction to the campus and the William and Mary experience.”

Construction on the Jimmye Laycock Football Center should also be completed in 2008. The estimated \$11 million facility will house locker and meeting rooms, offices and a video production room for the football team and staff, and has been in the works since last fall.

“Currently there are not many spaces that allow all the players on our team to meet,” Assistant Athletic Director Pete Clawson said. “The new facility will meet all the needs of our team, including state of the art

video equipment that is so important in the game. Furthermore, it will impact the entire athletics department by freeing up space in William and Mary Hall.”

In the meantime, a new scoreboard at Zable Stadium will serve as a much needed upgrade for spectators at games this fall.



ALICE HAHN — THE FLAT HAT

The new scoreboard at Zable Stadium features a large, color screen.

The melancholy of dieting while sitting, chewing, thinking

Dan Piepenbring
CONFUSION CORNER COLUMNIST



In exurban America, “moving through lots of incompact space” entails the licensed operation of a registered motor vehicle. I was in mine one day when I passed a guy on a bench who was contemplatively eating an enormous hoagie.

This simple sight reminded me of the most depressing television commercial I’ve ever seen. I’m thinking of is Jared Fogle’s first-ever advertisement for Subway, which aired in early 2000.

Thus the “Subway diet” was born, making Jared practically a household name. The commercial even has that quintessential infomercial shot in which the dieter holds his oversized trousers to his markedly trimmer waist, demonstrating how miraculously successful his weight-loss regimen has been.

That’s not what made me inexplicably sad. What

did was a shot of the newly slim Jared sitting on a park bench, chewing a bite of his foot-long Veggie Delite sandwich — his daily lunch for a year — with a very sober, attuned, introspective look on his face.

Passing the guy in my vehicle that day set into motion a chain of memories, sort of like Proust eating the Madeleine cookie — except instead of waves of nostalgia I had waves of sadness. This makes me sound far worse than Proust, sort of like a Romantic poet or just a shoo-in candidate for anti-depressants, neither of which I think I am.

I remember thinking when I first saw the commercial, “Wow, I think that’s really sad.” I then forgot about it for seven years. I’m willing to toss out a few guesses regarding its dolefulness. They mostly concern fringe images that the sight of Jared sitting, chewing and thinking (hereafter JSCAT) generated in my malleable brain tissue. JSCAT first got me ruminating on the monotony of his moving through space, of his being a body — a morbidly obese body — pushing through air and arriving at that bench and plopping himself down and chewing and pondering, every day, ceaselessly. Anyone

with self-image issues — which, circa 2000, was me and probably you, too if you’re currently an undergrad — could instantly empathize. The idea of an extremely fat man simply maneuvering, his every thought fixated on when he would next be able to stop maneuvering for a few minutes, struck me as grade A mood-sinking materiel.

This brings up the object of the T in JSCAT, that is, what the poor sap was thinking about every day on that bench. I imagine the commercial’s director instructing Jared to relive his “fat days,” to consider whatever it was he often considered while munching on a 12-inch Veggie Delite. Well, Jared was probably thinking about what his dad, a physician, purportedly told him at the peak of his obesity: “If you don’t get in shape soon, you could be dead by 35.” His meditative expression in the commercial really drives this home. Jared Fogle is probably a shit actor, but in the stoic-and-unflinching-facially-emoted-recognition-of-the-fact-that-this-Subway-diet-when-abetted-with-a-ton-of-walking-may-save-my-life department, he’s Oscar-worthy.

When I drove by the real sub-eater and recalled

this commercial, it all coalesced perfectly for a moment, my problems and his: Its central tenet was almost certainly that of occupying space and its shadowy connection to mortality. Even though Jared’s medical issues were only peripherally related to his hugeness, he must have thought his death would be the direct result of his failure to efficiently traverse America-sized slabs of land. I told you, it’s depressing. And not particularly well thought out.

This should not be construed as any sort of commentary on America’s obesity epidemic, nor do I want it read as an indictment of the dieting industry. All I’m saying is that there’s a lot of sorrow, to me, in someone eating on a bench, particularly when the object of that eating is to lose weight. Perhaps it’s only due to the fact that thinking while chewing inevitably makes us look like Neanderthals. Perhaps it’s the exposure, appearing unabashedly superstitious and goal-oriented in such a public place. Whatever it is, it occurred to me while driving and mandated that I share it.

Dan Piepenbring is a Confusion Corner columnist. He dreams of starring in his own commercial.

Thou shalt love thyself

Emily Powell
BEHIND CLOSED DOORS COLUMNIST



Before I unleash my masturbatory advice upon the female community, I just want to make a few things clear. This column was not written at the request of some guy; in fact, I wrote it after some women asked me to write a piece emphasizing female masturbation.

Masturbation is an important part of being a normal, healthy, sexual adult. Women might not masturbate for a number of reasons. Some see it as a gateway sexual act, which will somehow lead to the destruction of their morality. This is simply not true. If you have it set in your mind that sex is not in the cards for you right now, having some fun will not change your mind. Girls are told not to touch themselves, that it is dirty or will desensitize them. Maybe you’ve tried before, but couldn’t reach orgasm. Perhaps you’re saying, “I’ve got a man to do it for me, why should I bother?” I scoff at you. Whatever the reasoning is, unless masturbation is totally against your moral code, I’d suggest you read the column and then get started on your homework.

If you haven’t been able to successfully climax after many attempts, start by letting your worries go. Lock the door to the room so you don’t need to fear unwelcome visitors and pick a time when your roommate is sure not to return for about a half hour. Then focus on the clitoris, or “the man in the boat.” Use one or more fingers to massage gently in circles around it until you start to feel the tingle. Your own instincts should kick in at that point; if you slow the movement down or let up pressure, you can keep building up your anticipation until you shake your way through your first orgasm. If you need more incentive to start masturbating than an orgasm, I’ve come up with my top five reasons why you should.

Independence. Men have women by the balls (so to speak) when they don’t masturbate. If you haven’t given yourself an orgasm, how do you even know if he’s doing the best job? You might think you’ve been given a mind-blowing night, but once you try it out for yourself, you may discover that your old Earth-shaking orgasm was nothing more than a feather-light tremble. Also, when you can bring yourself to orgasm, you’re less likely to put up with some jerk you’re only seeing because he gets you off.

Cramps or a headache? Masturbate! When you have cramps or just don’t feel well you may not think you’re in the mood to get it on with yourself. You should give it a chance and start fantasizing. Once you start turning yourself on,

your body switches its concentration to what is more important. You’ll forget about whatever was ailing you, and you’ll go from feeling sickly to sexy in under five minutes.

Demonstrate. If he couldn’t get you off before, show him yourself. If you give a man the opportunity, nay the gift, of watching you please yourself, he’ll soon know exactly how to have you writhing with pleasure. If you’re comfortable with it, just put your hand over top of his and literally show him what to do either with a vibrator or while touching your clitoris. After the lesson, I’m pretty sure he’ll be turned on enough to give it a try himself.

Foreplay? Yes, please. No matter how women try to slow men down, many times they haven’t reached a peak of arousal when the sex starts. When you masturbate, you can make the process as complex and romantic as you want. If you want the dimmed lights and the music on and all that stuff, go for it. You can heat yourself up by exploring your body before getting to business, touching in exactly the way you’d want your partner to.

No better stress reliever. It provides a much needed respite during the day, just like a nap in between classes or exercising at the gym. You can’t think about school while doing it — unless that’s your thing — and the rush clears your head so you get a nice half-hour of dazed euphoria before realizing that test is still tomorrow.

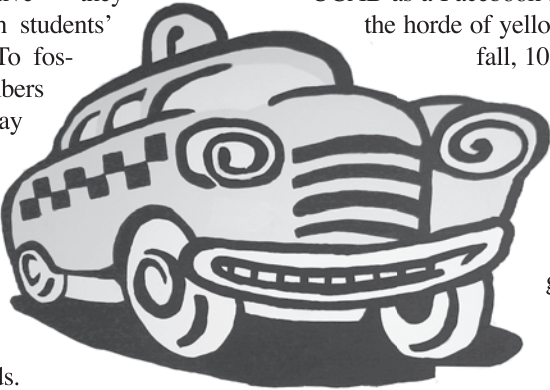
Apart from the reasons that I listed above, there are also some very obvious ones. You can never contract an STI from touching yourself, there is no chance of pregnancy when you masturbate and you cannot lose your virginity by masturbating. All in all, I see masturbation as a win-win system, and hope many of the women on campus will pick up this amazing hobby. And of course, this way you know you’ll always respect yourself in the morning.

Emily Powell is The Flat Hat sex columnist. She wants her readers to find their full potential.

UCAB unites creativity, bliss

UCAB from page 8

The yellow T-shirt-clad UCAB members execute campus activities, but consider their efforts more collaborative than executive — they function as liaisons with students’ best interests in mind. To foster approachability, members hold office hours every day Monday through Friday in their office at the Campus Center in the Student Organizations Suite, room 19. UCAB strives to continually widen its appeal and draw greater crowds. “Having the freedom to come up with new events and bring them to life is one of the most rewarding parts of UCAB,” Director of



the Late-Night Programming committee Brandon Nichols ’09 said.

Getting involved with UCAB is easy. Attend an event, browse the group’s website or even add UCAB as a Facebook friend. Of course, following the horde of yellow T-shirts works too. Every fall, 10 to 15 freshmen are selected as interns “to see the ins and outs of UCAB while getting to put on their own events,” Roth said. UCAB applications can be downloaded from the group’s website. Whether you choose to munch mid-night breakfast, rock out to a UCAB-sponsored concert or even apply to the committee, UCAB will find a way to involve and excite you, whatever your fancy may be.

SUDOKU

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Easy

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Hard

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5	7	3	6	4	1	2	8	9	
2	8	9	5	1	6	7	3	4	
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Easy

5	9	3	7	8	4	2	6	1	
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Hard

Directions:
Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each three-by-three block contain all of the digits 1 through 9.

Source: krazydad.com



By SAMANTHA FIEN-HELFMAN
Flat Hat That Girl Columnist

It’s hard to picture Hayley Loblein as the shy type she claims to have been during high school. She’s confident, entertaining and funny. Some claim that college changes students. It is a time to delve in and realize who you really are. This certainly holds true for Hayley. She has discovered her passions and finally knows what she wants to do with her life ... and it’s something she never imagined.

Why did you want to join 7th Grade sketchy comedy?

In sixth grade, I anchored a TV broadcast twice for my elementary school. I got a video tape of it and recently reviewed the footage. It was pretty amazing. I wanted to act for a long time when I was little, but acting in high school conflicted with swimming. Even now, I don’t think of myself as a typical theater kid. I like 7th Grade because I can play a wide range of characters and make people laugh. I wasn’t a class clown or anything back in the day, but I was definitely one of the sarcastic kids. It’s funny because I did not even want to go to the 7th Grade audition, but I was dragged.

Two girls on my hall were supposed to go but one backed out and the other convinced me to go. I was so shy in high school, I don’t know how we made call backs. We wore those stupid WM trucker hats. Mine was pink. I still have it. It’s not very 7th Grade acceptable.

You weren’t involved in theater in high school?

No. When I was in high school, I didn’t think I would do anything on stage during my college years. I was always shy and reserved. I played tennis, swam and participated in any type of volunteer groups that were offered, mainly with the Red Cross Association. I was in chorus and did a few solos. My first ones were “Jolly, Oh St. Nicholas” and the theme song from “Titanic.” Apparently my parents cried. I think it’s because they wish their daughter was a better singer.

Who was your favorite character you have played?

My favorite character would have to be McKenzie Amber Megan who is a TV talk show host similar to Ricki Lake or Maury. The show starts off with a montage of pictures of her (I really mean me). She is obnoxious and just a pain in the ass ... only wanting to be a talk show host solely for the limelight. My other favorite character, Ginny, was the one I got to play last year. Ginny is a really annoying college girl who just takes tons of photographs of herself. She thinks she is really cool and doesn’t seem to realize that no one likes her. Both of those characters were extremely narcissistic, which allowed that part of me to shine.

Along the lines of playing other characters, can you tell me about the “America’s Next Top Model” shoot you did last year?

Wow, is someone stalking me? Most of those pictures have been taken off Facebook, which is unfortunate for someone like yourself who might want to research me. Anyways, I really like the show “America’s Next Top Model.” My friend Katie Dixon enjoys taking photographs, so a group of us went to the Wren Building and Katie took photos of us in various settings trying to reenact the photo shoots from the show. I was one of the only ones actually willing to be in the photos and would try to

That Girl Hayley Loblein

express “smiling with my eyes” or “looking fierce.” I know I could never actually be on the show, but it’s a dream of mine. I just want to meet Tyra. My favorite photograph is one in which there are tears gliding down my face. That was a great moment ... I’m totally going to do that again.

Other than “America’s Next Top Model,” what do you think you might want to do after school?

I am way too lazy to take the GREs ... or the MCATs so my plan is to take a year off and audition for things in New York, especially soap operas. It will be perfect because I can be really dramatic. I also have a really good scream so I could audition for scary things. For example, at the 7th Grade table at the activities fair, freshmen would stick their hands into a box on our table. They would have to feel around and guess what it was. A lot of the kids were pretty nervous. When they looked scared, I would scream and they would jump back. They got pretty creeped out. There was this one boy who was incredibly apprehensive so I thought I would milk the situation. After I screamed, he backed up and proceeded to floor it away from us. He walked away without even a glance back. Poor kid. If you’re out there, I am truly sorry.

What advice would you give underclassmen?

I think everyone should add the LOL Cats Facebook application to their page. If you look on my profile, I put it right at the top. It shows a cat and a caption. Currently, I have a tiny Japanese cat next to a soda can and it has terrible sayings next to it ... I have a couple other applications but they aren’t as good. I have the horoscope one but it’s annoying because it doesn’t change every day. I’ll read them even though I don’t believe in what they say. They’re great. I’m a Cancer by the way. I also have a Magic 8-Ball, but I never use that. Oh, at home I have an actual Magic 8-Ball that’s pink and the cube is glittery so you can never actually read what it says. I would have used it in high school but it never really helped.

Tell me about the parts of campus like.

I really thought if we sat on the Terrace for this interview I would have a good story to tell. I was semi-hoping a squirrel would fall out of a tree and onto my head. That would have made this the best article ever. Unfortunately, I had no such luck.

I probably spend the least time in Swem. I never go there. I’ll probably go two times a year and those are my two most productive days. I think it’s because I can’t go on Facebook or anything, because then I’ll be looking at someone’s profile and be like “oh wait you’re right behind me. Whoops.”

Tell me about some of your summer experiences.

I used to be a pool lifeguard so I would read a lot. And no, not when I was a duty. I was really good. One afternoon there weren’t many people at the pool, so I studied my flashcards of bartending drinks while on duty. I’m a master of mixology. I don’t apply it that often (even though I’m 21), but it is cool to know how to count out and make tasty drinks. My favorite is Sex on the Beach. For those of age, they should try it. The drink, that is.

Describe your perfect date.

Perfect date starts with sex on the beach of course ... you can tell people I’m single and they should send me flowers. Or ask them to throw me a surprise party. I’ve always wanted one of those and never got one when I was little. I will be a soap opera start so they might want to work on that now.

..... compiled by Alexander Ely

Horoscopes

Virgo: Aug. 23 - Sept. 22
 Whew! You’re done with the grueling move-in process. Now you can look forward to sweating for the next two months because it’s so fucking hot.


Libra: Sept. 23 - Oct. 22
 Speaking of heat, don’t be alarmed this week when a beer gremlin jumps out of your fridge and defenestrates your air conditioner.


Scorpio: Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
 You will realize this week that getting a \$100 ticket from parking services is a bit steep. Too bad they don’t give a shit.


Sagittarius: Nov. 22 - Dec. 21
 Celebrity sighting alert: The stars predict that you will run into Falcons quarterback Michael Vick on DoG Street this week.


Capricorn: Dec. 22 - Jan. 19
 Don’t be too worried if you get into an argument about the existence of God with your roommate. Just put him or yourself in a glass box.


Aquarius: Jan. 20 - Feb. 18
 The NFL season is getting underway, and while we can’t predict what will happen, we know one thing: the Redskins will suck.


Pisces: Feb. 19 - March 20
 Classes are starting, and we offer a special warning to you freshmen. If you think you can get away with not going, well, it depends.

Aries: March 21 - April 19
 Jet-lagged and tired, you will make the smart choice to go out, get hammered and puke the next day after taking a malaria pill.

Taurus: April 20 - May 20
 If you wake up this week dizzy, bound and gagged, don’t worry. It was most likely IT coming to collect your \$2.22 printing bill.

Gemini: May 21 - June 21
 Contrary to popular belief, the water at Jamestown Beach will not kill you, but the diseases you contract there might.

Cancer: June 22 - July 22
 Stay away from dormcest — at all costs. Unless the person’s really hot, then just get drunk and forget you read this.

Leo: July 23 - Aug. 22
 You will have an epiphany this week: You want to apply for The Flat Hat and write these horoscopes so I don’t have to.



COURTESY PHOTO — INTERSCOPE

M.I.A. drops bombs, ‘Kala’

By **GENICE PHILLIPS**
The Flat Hat

M.I.A. is an assassin. She drops bombs of political hardships and violent realities with a brand of fierceness and tact that is unmatched. She produces sonic booms of nihilistic beats that pamper her rap-singing sounds and leave you devastated (with the help of her co-producers). There is no duplication of this 30-year-old Sri-Lankan native — no Nelly Furtado copy leaning on Timbaland’s beefy arms to obtain platinum records.

If you thought M.I.A.’s first album, “Arular,” was harmless, her sophomore album, “Kala,” is a brick to the face, smashing you with more grime, more noise and more intensity, with an evocative pinch. She still spits hot fire (like most female rappers do) with bird squawks and gunshots, determined to relay a message: She’s going to say whatever the fuck she wants and thrash powerful lyrics across your ears, leaving some deadly wounds.

Her visa troubles when attempting to return to the United States this year turned into a perfect opportunity to travel to different countries such as Trinidad, India and Jamaica, to film music videos and discover sounds and instruments that are rarely heard in the Unites States. The album’s first single, “Boyz,” is an upbeat, playful jingle with grating, rhythmic drums and crowd cheers. M.I.A. takes care to mention a few Caribbean dances (dutty wine) and ask some inquisitive questions about boys’ playtime: “How many no money boyz are

See **M.I.A.** page 11

ABC Family’s ‘Greek’ proves deep

By **ALEX GUILLÉN**
Flat Hat Assoc. Reviews Editor

What is a “real” college experience? Do you party all the time? Study like crazy? Go to every football game?

According to the protagonist in ABC Family’s newest series, “Greek,” he is seeking “a real college experience.” That means, he says, joining a fraternity. This is the only major problem with “Greek.” The show paints a sad picture of college life; it implies that, in order to have any fun at all, you have to go Greek. The show also represents fraternities and sororities as essentially cliques with houses. I saw that fraternities here at the College are far more open than those portrayed on “Greek.” I suppose it must not be the same at many other universities — making me appreciate the College even more.

The show focuses on some students at the fictional Cyprus-Rhodes University, which is considered to be an exceptional school academically, not unlike the College. The main character, Rusty Cartwright (Jacob Zachar), has just arrived and found out that his older sister Casey (Kelsey Grammer’s daughter Spencer Grammer, “As the World Turns”) hasn’t told anyone that she even has a brother — including her boyfriend, hunky Omega Chi Delta president Evan (Jake McDorman, “House”), and her ex, Kappa Tau Gamma president Cappie (Scott Michael Foster).

During rush, Rusty accidentally sees Evan having sex with Rebecca (Dilshad Vadsaria), the daughter of a state senator and a pledge at Casey’s sorority. When he tells his sister, she considers dumping Evan, but is cautioned by her sorority’s president that this would severely jeopardize her chances of rising to the office next year. In retribution, she sleeps with Cappie to “make things even,” then decides to stay with Evan. When she tells Rusty, he responds by telling her that the right choice — dumping Evan — is clear; Casey counters, saying relationships aren’t necessarily black



COURTESY PHOTO — ABC FAMILY

Jacob Zachar (RIGHT) stars as Rusty Cartwright, the freshman engineering major and Kappa Tau Gamma pledge, and Scott Michael Foster plays the fraternity’s slacker genius president, Cappie, in ABC Family’s new series, “Greek.”

and white.

Throughout the season, though, Casey is constantly torn between the two. Evan, the heir of a financial empire, represents stability and a plan for the future, but she is still extremely attracted to Cappie, whom she sees as fun and exciting.

Casey’s other major plotline is with Rebecca. The two have begun to feud, and although Rebecca uses the power associated with her father to gain certain privileges, Casey holds her on a leash thanks to a video of her and Evan having sex that was sent to Casey anonymously.

Rusty joins Cappie’s fraternity. During rush he meets Calvin (Paul James), who joins Evan’s fraternity because he is a legacy. The two become close, and eventually Calvin confides in Rusty that he is gay — something he hasn’t told anyone else because he had a bad coming-out experience in high school. He begins

a loose relationship with Heath (Zach Lively), an in-the-closet member of Rusty’s fraternity, although they break it off when they have a fight and Heath hooks up with another guy. Rusty, fortunately, has better luck in love; Jen K. (Jessica Rose of YouTube’s “Lonelygirl15” fame), a member of Casey’s sorority, reveals that she has a crush on him and they begin dating. In the latest episode, it is implied that they have sex — apparently the first time for both of them.

Despite the controversial portrayal of (fictional) college life, the show has many merits. It doesn’t really raise any grown-up questions; instead, it explores situations and problems more likely to be seen in college, by students — having fun, meeting new people and especially finding oneself. Casey’s observation that life is rarely black and white is true in many ways, and the idea is especially important in a society that increasingly values

moral relativism. Who’s to say this is right and that is wrong? Can the same rules be applied to the same situation? Her observation has become a major theme for the show, and it brings a freshness to a series that could very easily have been another cliché teen soap opera.

Rusty is easy to identify with and is extremely likable; his initial wide-eyed innocence and the eventual realization of the hardships of college is common in many real-life students. Most of the other characters are likable. Cappie, although seemingly lazy, is incredibly intelligent; Evan seems to be truly sorry for cheating on Casey; Jen K. is ditzy and awkward but sweet and loyal (in fact, she sent Casey the video of Rebecca and Evan); Calvin struggles between living a pleasant life and a possibly tormented-but-true life. Don’t worry, there is a character

See **‘GREEK’** page 11

HBO’s ‘Conchords’ flies high

By **CONOR MCKAY**
Flat Hat Reviews Editor

When I saw the advertisement for the new HBO comedy series, “Flight of the Conchords,” in the New York City Subway hailing the show’s subject as “New Zealand’s fourth most popular folk parody duo,” I giggled a little. When I saw the first episode the next weekend, I laughed my ass off. Bret McKenzie and Jemaine Clement, equal halves of the ridiculous digi-folk comedy outfit, began this summer as relative nobodies, but “Flight of the Conchords” has become a household name. The HBO series has been a huge success — so much so that the group has signed

on for a second season. Now, with the season coming to a triumphant close this week (assuming the rumors that there are only 12 episodes are true), the release of “The Distant Future” EP earlier this month and the band in the studio recording its full-length to come out on Sub Pop later this year, the group is at the top of the world, and with good reason.

The “folk parody duo” scene is slim, so it’s hard not to compare the Conchords with Tenacious D. In fact, the two faux-bands have similar histories. The D got its start playing comedy shows for friends and then hit it big with a very low budget HBO series. That show, which marked the odd, musical adventures of two

losers vying for rock stardom, ran for a grand total of six episodes. It was a cult hit, but was never much of a marketable success. Jack Black and Kyle Gass got a record contract nonetheless, and Tenacious D’s self-titled album was a monster success. “Tribute” and “Wonderboy” are classics, and “Fuck Her Gently” is a mainstay in my roommate’s party mix. Jack Black has gone on to become an uber-successful actor. Tenacious D even got a movie made (whether or not it was any good).

The Tenacious D show was, for the most part, a flop. After a mere six episodes, it never saw light again until it was released on DVD years later. I have that DVD. Some parts are good, but other parts are just awful. “Flight of the Conchords,” though, is a hit. For the Conchords, 12 killer episodes were filmed for the first season — each with a number of thematically included hilarious songs — and there’s going to be a second season. Maybe the post-HBO success of the D prompted the premium channel’s pickup of and belief in the Kiwi comedy team. Maybe the marketplace for a parody music group has widened after the D paved the way. But there’s something different about the Conchords: They pull it off better than Kage and Jables did. This show is clever, witty and straight-up hilarious.

My roommate heard me playing some of the Conchords’ music off “Distant Future,” and he said they sound like an indie version of the D — which is pretty much on the mark. They take influences from folk, rock, funk, soul, electronic and rap, among others. The mix makes for an

Rilo Kiley reunites, shines ‘Under the Blacklight’

By **CONOR MCKAY**
Flat Hat Reviews Editor

I first heard Rilo Kiley my freshman year, and fell in love. Not just with the music, though; I fell hard for the group’s beautiful, redheaded lead singer, Jenny Lewis. One of the first reviews I wrote for The Flat Hat was a glowing review of Lewis’s debut solo album, “Rabbit Fur Coat,” released in January of 2006, wherein I explained that the album held up to the best Rilo Kiley albums she had been a part of (while professing my romantic love for the article’s subject, of course). That album was a departure from the indie-pop stylings of Rilo Kiley as Lewis returned to her country roots, crafting a soulful, heart-warming Americana album more in line with a Neko Case or even a Loretta Lynn than with her L.A. band. Now, a post-hiatus Rilo Kiley has clearly taken influence from Lewis’s solo venture, incorporating country aspects with the group’s trademark sound on it’s new album, “Under the Blacklight.”

When you listen to “Rabbit Fur Coat,” Lewis’s backing singers, the Watson Twins, play a huge role in giving the music its churchy soul-singing sound. The Kentucky-born singers add bluegrass harmonies to embellish on Lewis’s sweet, twangy soprano for an almost Baptist choir-like effect. Take one listen to “Under the Blacklight,” and it becomes immediately apparent why the songs are larger and more dramatic: The chorus styles of Jenny’s solo shot were transposed directly onto Rilo Kiley’s sound — and it works.

My favorite Rilo Kiley album remains “The Execution of All Things,” which is about as

close to a perfect album as a band can get. Instead, “Under the Blacklight” is more or less on par with the band’s last album, 2004’s “More Adventurous.” The latter has some of the best songs the band has ever recorded — “Portions For Foxes” is one of my all-time favorite tracks — but it also has a lot of missteps, leading one to believe the band was swinging for the fences and didn’t quite hit it. On ‘Blacklight,’ there’s lots of great material, but the record never seems to run on all cylinders.

The opening track, “Silver Lining,” is the best synthesis of the poppy, energetic sound of the band’s new past and the soulful new sounds introduced. Track two, “Close Call,” while not the catchiest song on the album, proves to be sweet in its rolling, country style. But right after coming strong out of the gate, the album stops dead on track three. “The Moneymaker” may be the worst song the band has ever recorded. The lyrics are cliché, the guitar line is horribly overused and the chorus is dry and unoriginal. Sure, the band is probably trying to be ironic — Lewis has always been edgy, but somehow she seems less than sincere growling “shake your moneymaker” — but the joke falls flat. Then, choosing that song as the album’s lead single tells me the band doesn’t have its priorities straight.

Part of the problem for “Under the Blacklight” is that it’s top-heavy. With the exception of “The Moneymaker,” the first half of the album is killer. But for all that success, the second half of the record is, for lack of a better word, forgettable. This leaves you feeling unsatisfied.

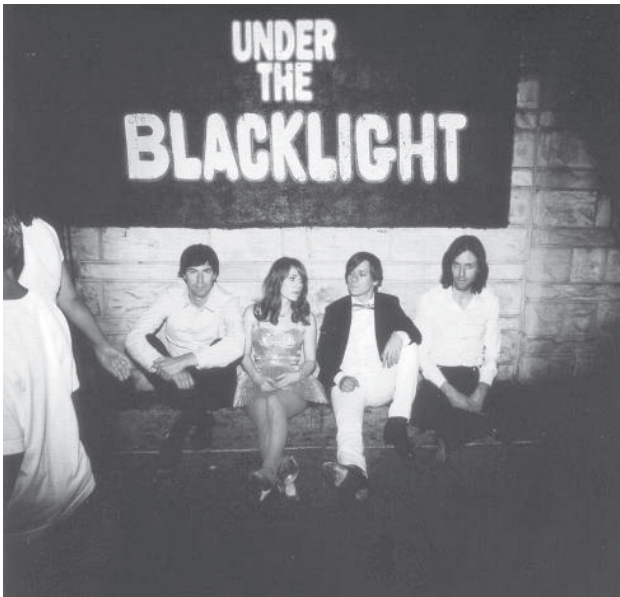
See **RILO KILEY** page 11



COURTESY PHOTO — HBO

New Zealand native Jemaine Clement is the bassist for the fictional band behind HBO’s new comedy series, “Flight of the Conchords.”

See **‘CONCHORDS’** page 11



COURTESY PHOTO — WARNER BROS.

Coming Attractions

— compiled by
Alex Guillén



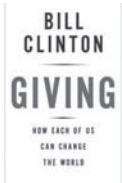
Calvin Harris — “I Created Disco” (Almost Gold)
Scottish singer Calvin Harris’s debut album, despite the name, is more like early ’80s electro than disco. Most notable about the album is that it cost literally nothing to make; he recorded it in his basement using equipment he already had. It was released in June in the UK and was praised as hilarious and dance-worthy. **Sept. 4**



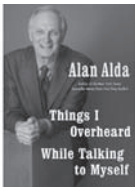
“Halloween” (Dimension Films/MGM)
This remake of the 1978 movie stars Tyler Mane (“Troy”) as murderer Michael Myers. After brutally slaying his family as a 10-year-old, he is locked away, only to escape as an adult and search out his baby sister — either to kill her or protect her. Rob Zombie (“The Devil’s Rejects”) directs, ensuring a gory thriller. **Aug. 31**



“I Want Someone to Eat Cheese With” (IFC Films)
Jeff Garlin (“Curb Your Enthusiasm”) stars as an actor struggling with life: he’s fat, he has no job and both his agent and girlfriend dumped him. Then he meets Beth (Sarah Silverman, “SNL”), but James may be in for more than he thought with the sexually aggressive and slightly demented Beth. **Sept. 5**



“Giving” By Bill Clinton (Knopf)
Former President Bill Clinton’s new book reflects on his recent humanitarian work, especially the Asian tsunami disaster and Hurricane Katrina. He also spotlights various do-gooders who work to better the world or just their neighborhood. Clinton also encourages each of us to take steps to make a difference. **Sept. 4**



“Things I Overheard While Talking to Myself”
By Alan Alda (Random House)
Alan Alda’s memoir weaves together advice culled from speeches he has given with reflections on how he came to his values and beliefs. After a near-death experience on a Chilean mountaintop, he was inspired to live what he considers to be his second life. **Sept. 4**

HOLLYWOOD GOSSIP

Scandalicious

At the Notting Hill Carnival, triple-nippled chanteuse Lily Allen got into a sticky scuffle with reggae artist Kray. Apparently prompted by absolutely nothing, the smiling singer stole his mic to imitate a Jamaican accent. In response, he seized her pint of beer and poured it over her head. Her expression far from blank, Lily ran from the stage soaking wet and beet red. What a shame for her.



Still not in control

With last week’s plan of escaping to England long forgotten, Britney Spears was due for another headline. This week’s offense? Brit was photographed in L.A. with her ass hanging out of a shirt she mistakenly wore as a micro-mini-dress. Last week her regrowing hair looked so cute and demure that we dared to hope she was in the zone of reaching a crossroads. Baby, one more time won’t last forever.



Ain’t no stoppin’ them now

There’s something kinda funny about the fast-approaching Spice Girls reunion tour. The girl power mamas have vowed not to take on too much, insisting on an alcohol-free tour complete with early bedtimes. Sounds like wannabe rockstars saying goodbye to their former viva forever mentality. Seriously girls, who do you think you are? If you wanna be my lover, you gotta stay up past 10.



Oh my God

Problems in the house of Carters never end. Earlier this week Nick Carter paid mom Jane to dogsit his pit bull. Unbeknownst to her larger-than-life son, she dumped the pooch at an animal shelter while he was away. Talk about payback — looks like their unbreakable reunion has turned black and blue. It’s going to take more than that to convince Nick to quit playing games (with her heart).

— compiled by Alice Hahn

‘Greek’ honestly portrays college

‘GREEK’ from page 10

everyone loves to hate: Rebecca. She truly has no redeeming qualities.

However, there are some parts that are difficult to believe. For example: How does Rusty have time to study for the intense engineering program? Where do all of these people get their money? Why would anyone put up with such archaic and point-

less rituals, like “crush baskets” and candlelight ceremonies?

Thankfully, despite the sometimes dark morality, the show is generally light-hearted, full of many witty quips and college jokes. The characters are anything but one-dimensional. The cast and writing on this edgy (for ABC Family) show make it worthwhile.

★★★★☆

HBO’s ‘Conchords’ takes flight

‘CONCHORDS’ from page 10

indie sound that simultaneously pokes fun at just about every genre you can imagine, while also being really good music with catchy lyrics and melodies. As for the show, another friend of mine (we’re all fans) dubbed it a musical take on “Curb Your Enthusiasm.” Sure, not everyone likes the awkward brand of humor that Larry David’s HBO

comedy series peddles, but those who do absolutely love it. If you do, you’ll like this.

So tune in this Sunday to HBO at 10:30 p.m. to catch the (most likely) last episode in this season of “Flight of the Conchords,” and enjoy. If you don’t have HBO — like myself and almost anyone who lives on campus — check YouTube for it in the coming days. Every episode can be found there, and they usually

make their way up within a day or so of airing. The legality of this is, well, not entirely straight, but the Conchords themselves have placed a lot of their success on the power of YouTube, and maybe that’s why no episode has been forceably taken down. So enjoy it while it lasts, and look for the record — and an accompanying Flat Hat review — in the coming months.

★★★★☆



COURTESY PHOTO — HBO

Jemaine Clement and Bret McKenzie get mugged in the second episode of HBO’s show, “Flight of the Conchords.” All they have to offer the robbers is the “camera phone” Jemaine gave Bret as a present, which is merely a camera glued to a cell phone, effectively ruining both.

Rilo Kiley returns with a bang

RILO KILEY from page 10

The album peaks early — “Silver Lining” may be the record’s best track — making you wonder if you missed something by the end. Just like “More Adventurous,” whose best few songs are in its first five tracks, “Under the Blacklight” opens with lots of potential, but never quite

reaches that timelessness that “The Execution of All Things” did. Still, I can’t help but be happy Ms. Lewis and company are back. I may hate “The Moneymaker,” but I do have to admit one thing I like about it — it’s an excuse for my Jenny-love to give a little shake when I oogle her in concert a month from now. Ah, love.

★★★★☆



COURTESY PHOTO — WARNERBROSRECORDS.COM

Rilo Kiley, which has been on hiatus for side projects and solo turns since the release of the group’s 2004 album, “More Adventurous,” returns with 2007’s glowing “Under the Blacklight.”

M.I.A. breaks borders with ‘Kala’

M.I.A. from page 10

crazy? /How many boyz are raw? /How many no money boyz are rowdy? /How many start a war.”

She boasts on her first track, “Bamboo Banga,” about being a “big timer” and “coming back with power,” exploding with Baltimore club thumps and whizzing car sounds. A few bad tracks plague the record, including “Hussel,” which features Afrikan Boy, a Nigerian rapper. This dangerous and hypnotic track has M.I.A. secretly whispering about the inner-workings of people who are in survival mode 24/7, caused by corrupt political systems that are chiefly concerned with gasoline and Hershey chocolate, while Afrikan Boy displays his hustling skills with a challenge: “You think its tough now, come to Africa.”

★★★★☆

Cuff blows past Tribe in 49-31 game

COMMENTARY from page 12

tion, finishing with 433 yards on 26 of 41 passing. His footwork was excellent as he made several nifty moves to avoid the defensive pressure that came at him much of the game. He threw a couple of dangerous passes, and he failed to get the ball out quickly enough to junior wideout D.J. McAulay in the end zone on their first possession, but for the most part he was accurate, a playmaker and very much in control of the offense. Graduated running back Elijah Brooks’ absence was felt very strongly in this game, as the College failed to establish a power running attack.

One of the biggest bright spots for the Tribe this game has to be the amount of athletes the Tribe has at its disposal on the offensive side of the ball. Senior tight end Drew Atchison overcame a couple of early drops to provide a reliable, big (6’7”) target for Phillips. Junior running back DeBrian Holmes and McAulay are both very dangerous in the open field, as is redshirt freshman running back Courtland Mariner, who surprised with some electrifying moves, including one kickoff return during which he shook off a monster hit and sped down the sideline up past the 40-yard line.

As difficult as it is to remain optimistic following a game in which they gave up seven touchdowns, the Tribe has plenty of hope to fall back on. This is a young team at almost every position, particularly on the defensive side of the ball, and it is likely that this squad will need a few weeks of game action to get their feet wet. Next up on their schedule is a road contest with Virginia Military Institute Sept. 1, followed by a home night game against Liberty University, both very winnable matchups. With the talent they have, the Tribe should be able to use a little experience and confidence to raise their play to another level. Just maybe not quite to the level of Omar Cuff.

GAME STORY from page 12

Junior quarterback Jake Phillips, who emerged as the Tribe’s starting quarterback following an off-season of uncertainty concerning the position, set a Tribe record with 433 passing yards. Phillips’ performance was highlighted by a 50 yard touchdown pass to senior tight end Drew Atchison on the Tribe’s opening possession of the second half. Atchison’s grab pulled the Tribe within 11 points, but the College’s defense failed to hold Delaware, as the Blue Hens responded by marching right back down the field for another score.

“We had some opportunities which we couldn’t cash in on but we were moving the ball pretty well,” Laycock said.

Pate missed a 35-yard field goal at the end of the first half and the Tribe failed to get any points out of a trip to the Delaware red zone midway through the third quarter. On fourth and goal from Delaware’s 14 yard line, Laycock elected to go for the touchdown. Phillips delivered a strike down the middle to streaking junior wide receiver D.J. McAulay, but the ball sailed just out of McAulay’s reach.

“It wasn’t a bad [pass],” Laycock said. “If [McAulay] had busted through the coverage, which is what [Phillips] was thinking he was going to do, we would have had it.”

McAulay led the Tribe receivers with seven catches for 162 yards and a touchdown in senior wide receiver Joe Nicholas’ absence. Nicholas missed the game due to an injury but is expected to be ready for next week’s contest against VMI. Atchison caught six balls for 139 yards and a score. Redshirt freshman running back Courtland Marriner, in his first game for the Tribe, ran the ball four times for 21 yards and returned six punts for 137 yards.



ALEX HAGLUND — THE FLAT HAT

Junior cornerback and team co-captain Derek Cox breaks up a pass against Delaware last night.

A Cuff above

SPORTS IN BRIEF

FIELD HOCKEY

Tribe goes to 2-0 after weekend homestand

Back-to-back hot, humid days did not slow down the Tribe this weekend as the College defeated Lock Haven University 4-2 and Fairfield University 5-0 to start the season. Freshman forward Rebecca Wagner came off the bench to score two goals in her collegiate debut Saturday against Lock Haven. In Sunday's match with Fairfield, Wagner scored another goal. Her impressive weekend performance earned her womensfieldhockey.com National Rookie of the Week and CAA Rookie of the Week honors. In both matches the College pulled away from its opponents in the second half, outscoring Lock Haven and Fairfield 8-1 combined.

VOLLEYBALL

Owens and Pflugner lead College to 1-1 finish at VT

Last Friday, the Tribe competed at the Hokie Invitational in Blacksburg and split its matches. In its morning match, the College lost to Virginia Tech 3-1 (30-28, 28-30, 30-25, 30-26). Sophomore Lindsey Pflugner had 13 kills and 15 digs to record a double-double. The Tribe came back to best the Marshall University Thundering Herd 3-2 (30-27, 29-31, 15-30, 30-23, 15-11) to even its record at 1-1 for the season. Freshman setter Cassie Crumal contributed 105 assists in the two matches and received her first CAA Rookie of the Week award for her efforts. Against Marshall, Junior Abbi Owens recorded 19 kills and 12 digs while Pflugner notched 16 kills and 17 digs.

Written by Andrew Pike.

SCHEDULE

Fri., Aug. 31

WOMEN'S SOCCER

@ UNC Greensboro — 7 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

vs. ECU — 7:30 p.m.

Sat., Sept. 1

FIELD HOCKEY

@ Duke — 1 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

vs. KENT STATE — 1:30 p.m.
vs. SO. ILLINOIS — 7:30 p.m.

MEN'S SOCCER

vs. ELON — 7 p.m.

Sun., Sept. 2

WOMEN'S SOCCER

@ N.C. State — 1 p.m.

Mon., Sept. 3

FIELD HOCKEY

vs. Iowa — 1 p.m. *

* Game played at Duke.



ALEX HAGLUND — THE FLAT HAT

Delaware running back Omar Cuff escapes the grasp of a Tribe defender on his way to scoring one of his Football Championship Subdivision record-tying seven total touchdowns.

COMMENTARY

Cuff carves up the Tribe for 7 scores

Jeff Dooley

FLAT HAT SPORTS EDITOR



The 11,639 in attendance last night were treated to the Omar Cuff Show, as the senior University of Delaware running back torched the Tribe defense for a total of seven touchdowns, six of them rushing and one receiving. It will take a minor miracle for Cuff not to be on an NFL roster this time next year, as a back with his speed, vision and power will be hard to pass over, even if he does come from a lesser football program. The NFL scout sitting two seats down from me during the game serves as proof enough that the runner is on the radar of teams around the league.

While Cuff is an exceptional player, the Tribe defense should still be concerned with their performance. In addition to Cuff running wild throughout the game (finishing with 244 yards rushing on 30 carries), the defense couldn't defend a screen pass the entire game and were consistently overmatched in short yardage situations. The talent of this young unit is apparent, however, as they showed plenty of energy and laid more than a few nasty hits on their opponents. Their performance is likely to improve when they don't have to face a runner of Cuff's caliber.

As a whole, the offense was impressive. Junior Jake Phillips put on a good showing at the quarterback posi-

See COMMENTARY page 11

BY THE NUMBERS

Game Stats

TOTAL YARDS
W&M 542 DEL 483
RED ZONE SCORES-CHANCES
W&M 3-5 DEL 6-6
TIME OF POSSESSION
W&M 30:05 DEL 29:55

Individual Stats

PASSING
Jake Phillips — 26-41, 433 yards, 3 total touchdowns
RECEIVING
D.J. McAulay — 7 catches, 162 receiving yards, 1 touchdown

TRIBE PLAYER OF THE GAME Jake Phillips, Quarterback



The junior signal-caller set a Tribe record for passing yards in a game during the season opener, connecting on 26 of his 41 passes for 433 yards and 2 TDs. He was also very effective with his legs, rushing for a touchdown and keeping countless plays alive with his scrambling ability.

GAME STORY

Runner's record-setting effort blows past Tribe

By MILES HILDER

Flat Hat Assoc. Sports Editor

The Tribe's season opener lacked suspense but more than made up for it in fireworks, as the University of Delaware defeated the College 49-31 in a record-setting shootout under the lights at Zable Stadium.

Preseason All-American running back Omar Cuff lived up to his billing, as the Delaware senior used a combination of quickness and power to exploit the Tribe's young defense for 296 total yards and seven total touchdowns setting CAA records for rushing touchdowns, total touchdowns, and total points in the process. Cuff's performance also tied the NCAA Football Championship Subdivision record for total touchdowns.

"Cuff is a very good back," Tribe head coach Jimmie Laycock said. "When you put [Cuff] against a defense that has to grow up a little bit and get older and more mature and more physical ... we tried everything we could."

The Tribe's defense appeared up

to the task of stopping Cuff early on, as the College forced Delaware to punt on their first possession, but the game slipped away from the Tribe as the Blue Hens found their stride on offense immediately afterward, scoring touchdowns on their ensuing seven possessions.

"The difference in the game was Delaware's strength and physicalness up front," Laycock said. "They controlled the line of scrimmage and our defense. Once they did that, we were playing catch up all night."

The College looked sharp and polished on their first possession of the season as quarterback Jake Phillips marched an efficient Tribe offense to Delaware's three yard line, where the drive stalled. Sophomore kicker Brian Pate nailed a 20-yard field goal, the first of his career, to give the Tribe an early 3-0 advantage. The drive, which covered 83 yards on 20 plays, was the Tribe's longest drive of the past two seasons, eating up 8:30 of clock while keeping the potent Blue Hen offense on the sidelines.

See GAME STORY page 11



COURTESY PHOTO — WILLIAM AND MARY SPORTS INFORMATION

Converted midfielder senior Doug Ernst will be asked to move to forward in order to make up for the team's recent personnel losses at the position.

MEN'S SOCCER

Tribe searches for answers up top

Loss of forwards Hoxie, Snyder has College looking for scoring punch

By GRAHAM WILLIAMSON

Flat Hat Staff Writer

As the regular season opener against Elon University rapidly approaches, it's evident that Head Coach Chris Norris must adjust his offensive strategy. After losing leading scorer Andrew Hoxie for the season due to undisclosed reasons and University of Mary Washington transfer sophomore Ryan Snyder to a knee injury, the Tribe has been left with an unexpected lack of depth at striker. However, Norris is prepared to adjust to the inevitable challenges of an NCAA season.

In order to combat the team's obvious holes at striker, Coach Norris plans to implement a new 4-3-3 formation that could feature redshirt freshman Alan Koger, junior

Nathan Belcher and experienced senior Doug Ernst at the forward positions. Both Koger and Belcher should offer a certain amount of youthful energy and goal-scoring potential as each has good size and is effective when his back is to the goal. Meanwhile, Ernst, who has been a mainstay in the Tribe midfield for the last three seasons, should provide both experience and continuity to an otherwise inexperienced attack unit. A true wizard with the ball at his feet, Ernst combines scoring ability with an uncanny ability to see the entire field and distribute the ball with unparalleled precision.

"When we play in the 4-3-3 formation I should have less defensive responsibility. I'll be more free to attack up the wing and swing the ball into the center of the field," said Ernst

when asked about his adjusted role in the new offense. Ernst will look to build off his breakout 2006 campaign when he led the CAA in assists.

In addition to crafting a new offensive strategy, Coach Norris has recently named the team captains — senior Ryan Overdevest and junior Doug McBride. Overdevest — who was recently given Second-Team ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America honors — should provide some much-needed senior leadership to a squad with 17 underclassmen. Meanwhile, McBride will set an excellent example for the youthful team with his constant hustle and positive attitude.

Coach Norris also mentioned senior back Ryan Sells when asked who he considered the team leaders.

"Sells is a fifth-year senior who

played in 16 games for us last year," Norris said. "He really gives this team some valuable experience."

Although the team has endured a significant amount of misfortune before the outset of the season, Doug Ernst remains confident that a youthful Tribe squad will have success.

"It's hard when you lose good players," Ernst said. "However, opportunities have been opened up for some younger players. If these young guys can step up to the challenge as they already have this pre-season, we may not miss a beat."

After the home opener against Elon, the Tribe will travel to Pennsylvania for the weekend, where they will face off with Pennsylvania State University Sept. 7 and the Ohio State University Buckeyes Sept. 9.